

28 February 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

I wanted to write to you to give you a short update following the DfE's most recent update to the guidance.

Although the legal requirement to self-isolate after a positive test has now been removed, there is still clear guidance that students and staff who test positive should self-isolate. Therefore, at TSFA, we are still advising self-isolation in the event of a positive test. This means that students should:

- Self-isolate for at least 5 days (+ 2-day if following the release testing model);
- Under the release testing model, students and staff should only return if they test negative using LFD tests, twice. These release tests should be taken no earlier than day 6 and 7 and taken 24 hours apart;
- Or, complete the full 10 days of isolation.

If your child displays any of the three classic symptoms of Covid-19, they should book a PCR test and self-isolate until the test results come through.

Close contacts of positive cases do not need to self-isolate but should be mindful to monitor themselves for developing symptoms and to take additional risk mitigating measures to protect others, such as wearing a face covering.

Under all other circumstances, face coverings are no longer advised for students, staff or visitors in classrooms, other teaching spaces or communal areas. However, Public Health England might advise that face coverings should be temporarily worn as a contingency arrangement to a rise in positive cases.

The guidance also suggests that staff and students do not need to conduct the twice weekly testing and that the LFD tests will not be free as of 1 April 2022.

I will endeavour to keep you up to date with any further update to the guidance, as they come through.

Many thanks



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