

21 March 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

### Covid-19 Update

You will know that from the end of February the Government relaxed most of the COVID-19 restrictions. For the Education sector the main changes were

- End of **legal** requirement to self-isolate
- End of daily testing of close contacts and contact tracing
- Staff, Students and pupils in mainstream education settings are no longer advised to undertake twice weekly asymptomatic testing.

We have however had a number of positive COVID-19 cases within South Somerset Partnership School over the last few weeks and whilst there is no longer a **legal** requirement if you have any of the main symptoms or a positive test result, the **public health advice is to stay home and avoid contact with other people.**

As a reminder the main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

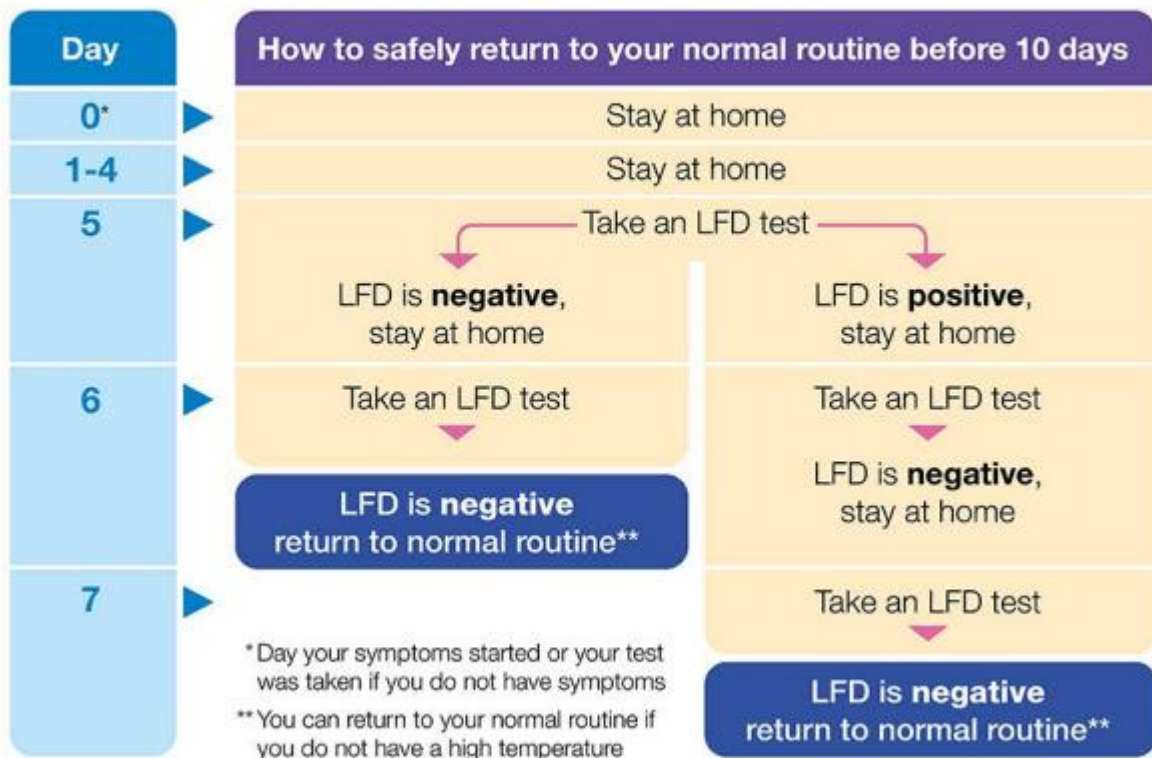
- A high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- A new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24hrs (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If you have any of these symptoms you should take a lateral flow test or order a PCR test. You are advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people while you are waiting for the test result. To see the full guidance, visit [covid-19-response-living-with-covid-19](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-response-living-with-covid-19)

**Children and young people with Covid-19 should not attend school while they are infectious.** They should take an LFD test from **five days after their symptoms started** (or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms) followed by another one the next day. If both these test results are negative they should return to school, **as long as they feel well enough to do so and do not have a temperature.** Children and young people who live with someone who has Covid-19 should come to school as normal.

SSPS has testing kits that we are able to continue to issue if you need them. Please contact us if you need a new box of tests.

## How to safely return to your normal routine before 10 days



Should you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact your child's Pastoral Leader on 01935 410793

Yours sincerely



Jo Simons  
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