



# Upper Beeding Primary School

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19<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Further to our previous emails, we are letting you know that we have a significant number of Covid-19 cases within Upper Beeding Primary School, both among children and staff.

We are therefore implementing our emergency outbreak procedures and children are now working in class bubbles. We also have restrictions in place at break and lunch to avoid mixing across year groups. We are continuing with stringent cleaning, handwashing/sanitising and Public Health England have confirmed no further restrictions are required at the present time.

The current advice is for anyone with Covid-19 symptoms (**temperature, new or continuous cough, loss of taste/smell**) to isolate and book a PCR as soon as possible. **You do not need to take a PCR test if you have already taken an LFD test which gives a positive result.** The new Omicron variant may also present as a **sore throat, headache, runny nose, sore eyes, tummy ache or vomiting.** **This variant is extremely contagious.**

We are asking you to be particularly vigilant with any symptoms your child may have. If they display any of the above symptoms, **PLEASE DO NOT SEND THEM INTO SCHOOL**, even if they have had a negative LFD. It can take several days for children to test positive after symptoms appear. We are encouraging parents/carers to do regular LFDs on the children to help identify any asymptomatic cases to help us prevent the spread of Covid-19. Please remember to report LFD results on the government website.

The latest government guidelines surrounding Covid-19 and can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>.

## Changes to Isolation Periods

The isolation period is still 10 days but can be reduced **to 5 full days** (as long as your child is well enough and without a temperature) and receives **2 consecutive negative** LFD results which were **taken 24 hours apart**. The earliest they should take the first LFD test is on day 5. Any **positive test** after a first **negative test** would mean that the first negative is **null and void**. Your child would still require 2 consecutive negative tests before returning to school **or** must have completed the full 10 day isolation period. You must register results with the NHS website and email both results to school. **TO RETURN ON THE DAY OF A SECOND NEGATIVE TEST, BOTH TESTS WOULD NEED TO BE TAKEN BEFORE 8.45AM.**

## Home Learning

We are concerned about the impact on the children's learning for those unable to come into school and there will be work available for them to do, provided they feel well, on Google classroom. We would be very grateful if you could support your child's home learning during any isolation. Please be aware that due to our own staff shortages, submitted work may not get looked at within the normal timescale.

We appreciate the government guidance is constantly changing and can be confusing. If you have any queries at all, please do not hesitate to contact us.



