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Dear Parents/Carers

13/12/2021

Please see the latest school guidance below regarding self-isolation rules for anybody who is a close contact of someone with a positive COVID PCR'

Pupils and staff of a close contact of a positive case

If you are a close contact (including the same household) of a positive case of Covid-19 you must

- Take a PCR test immediately (NOT a Lateral flow test) and self-isolate until you receive the result
- PCR results must be emailed to the school via admin@broombarns.herts.sch.uk
- If the result is negative the individual should take an NHS rapid lateral flow test every day for 7 days to help slow the spread of COVID-19 and return to school.

The follow has been copied directly from Government guidance

From Tuesday 14 December, people who are fully vaccinated and identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 – whether Omicron or not – should take an NHS rapid lateral flow test every day for 7 days to help slow the spread of COVID-19.

The practical move comes as Omicron infections are rising significantly in the UK and it is expected to become the dominant strain in the UK by mid-December.

Daily rapid testing applies to all contacts who are:

- fully vaccinated adults – people who have had 2 jabs
- all children aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, regardless of their vaccination status
- people who can prove they are unable to be vaccinated for clinical reasons
- people taking part, or have taken part, in an approved clinical trial for a COVID-19 vaccine

Under 5s are exempt from self-isolation and do not need to take part in daily rapid lateral flow testing.

Anyone whose rapid test comes back positive or who develops COVID-19 symptoms should self-isolate and take a confirmatory PCR test to verify the result. If the PCR result comes back positive, contacts must self-isolate for 10 days from the day they took the positive rapid test or developed symptoms. They do not need to continue taking rapid tests during that 10 day isolation period. If the PCR result comes back negative, contacts can leave self-isolation but should continue to take rapid tests for the remainder of the 7 days.