

**Mrs Helen Lynch**  
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[www.leominsterprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.leominsterprimaryschool.co.uk)

28<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Dear Parents / Carers,

We hope that you have had a good half – term and the children are ready to enjoy the second half term.

We would like to apologise for closing on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February, but we had to make this decision due to the storm causing staff shortages.

As you are aware, the Government guidance changed on 24<sup>th</sup> February and we would like to update you on what this means for our school setting.

We are now operating under the updated Government guidance for school settings:  
[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1057106/220224\\_Schools\\_guidance.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1057106/220224_Schools_guidance.pdf)

As stated in the guidance, a pupil displaying any of the three main symptoms (a new continuous cough, high temperature or a loss of/ change of their normal taste or smell) should not attend the school, arrange to take a PCR test and are advised to stay at home and avoid contact with others given the potential risk to pass on COVID - 19. Although there is no legal requirement for people with COVID-19 infection to self-isolate, as a school we must protect the safety of all pupils and staff and prevent them from a possible infection of COVID-19. Therefore if your child tests positive on a PCR with COVID-19, they should self-isolate until they are no longer contagious in line with other infectious diseases e.g. chicken pox. If your child displays any of the main symptoms, they must take a PCR <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing/get-tested-for-coronavirus/>

Public Health advice on the isolation period has not changed and we have attached the information flow chart at the bottom of this letter to support your understanding.

Please do contact the school if your child tests positive or is awaiting a PCR test due to having one of the three main symptoms. However we will no longer be notifying you if there are cases in school, but we will be monitoring cases and will inform you if additional measures need to be put in place due to rising cases.

Staff will no longer need to test twice a week with LFD tests, however they will be following the same Government Guidance as pupils and will take a PCR test if they develop any of the main three symptoms.

In accordance with Government guidance, we will no longer be required to wear masks in communal areas and you will be able to enter the school without wearing one, if you wish not to. Please feel free to continue wearing masks if it makes you feel comfortable.



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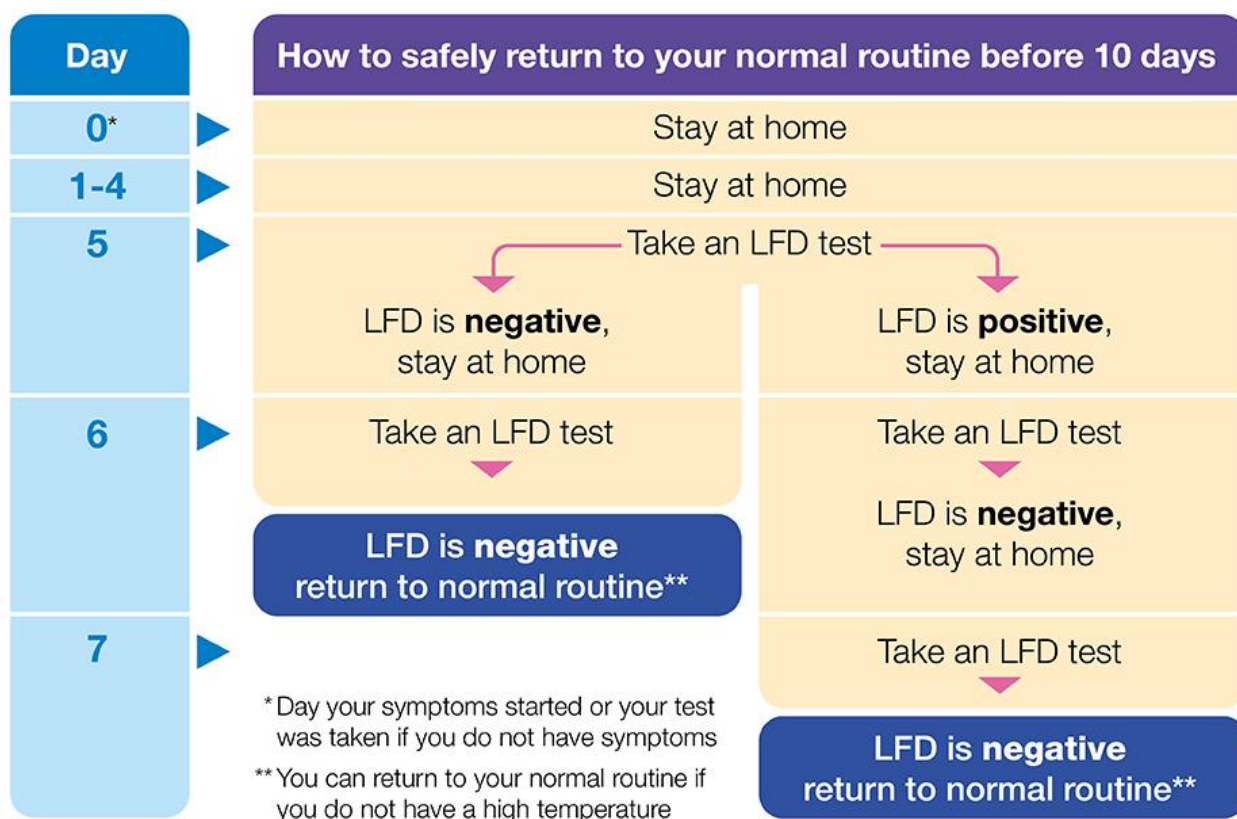
From next week, pupils will no longer be kept in phase bubbles for various activities across the school e.g. lunchtimes. However, for organisational reasons, we have decided to keep drop off and pick up routines the same to avoid congestions and feel that this routine works well for all.

Our control measures still include ensuring pupils and staff maintain good hygiene, having an appropriate cleaning regime and providing well ventilated spaces.

You can find our current, updated risk assessment on our website.

We thank you as always for your continued support and hope that the rest of this academic year we can move forward, offering more opportunities as restrictions ease.

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



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