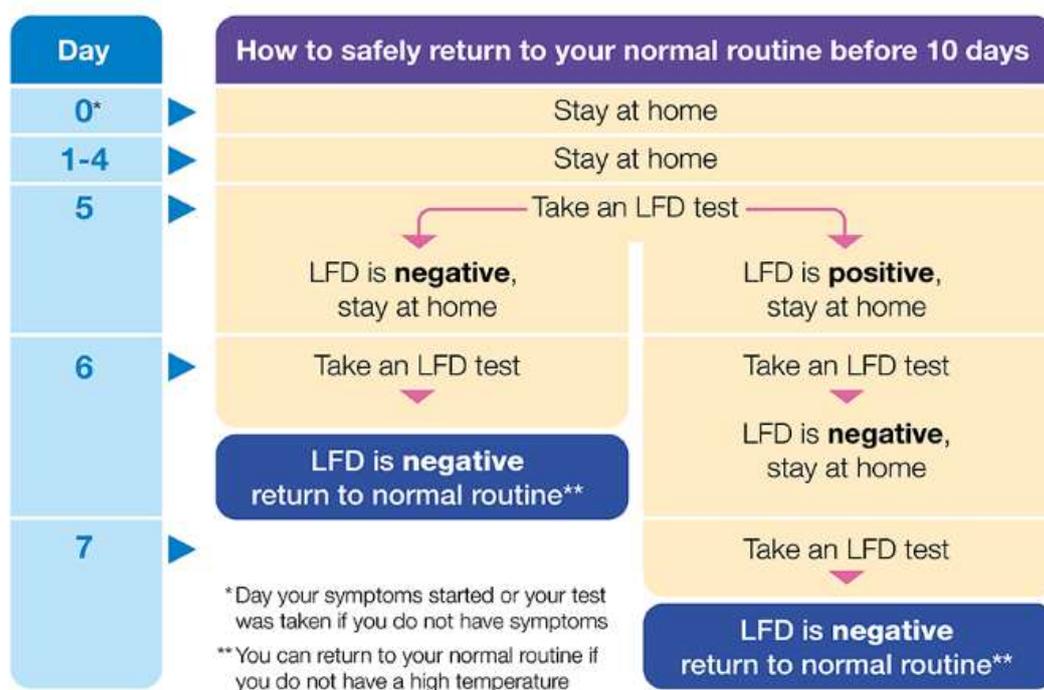


Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will be aware, during half term the Government has announced a new [‘Living with Covid’](#) plan. The DfE has now updated its guidance documents for education settings to reflect the removal of the legal requirement for people with Covid to self-isolate from 24th February. The sections in these documents on ‘tracing close contacts and isolation’ and ‘when someone develops Covid-19 symptoms or has a positive test’ now refer to newly-published [UKHSA guidance for people with Covid-19 and their contacts](#).

Key points from the new documentation

- With immediate effect, the government has removed the guidance for staff and students to undertake twice-weekly asymptomatic testing. **Testing now only needs to take place if your child has symptoms.**
- From Thursday 24 February, the government has removed the legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test. However, adults and children who test positive (with an LFT and PCR) will continue to be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least five full days, and then as previously, continue to follow the guidance until they have received two negative test results on consecutive days. You are then required to return to work on Day 11 as long as you do not have a temperature.
- **If your child has any of the main symptoms of Covid-19 (a recent onset of a new continuous cough; a high temperature; or a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell) they should take an LFT, and if positive order a PCR test. Your child is advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people while you wait for the test result.**



Longer term plans

- From Friday 1 April, the government will no longer provide free to order universal symptomatic and asymptomatic testing for the general public in England. The government will update guidance on the steps that people with Covid-19 should take to minimise contact with other people accordingly.

All Government Guidance has been updated and can be found here:

[Actions for Schools during the Coronavirus Outbreak – GOV.UK](#)