

13 January 22

Dear Parents and Guardians

Covid update

Thank you for your ongoing support to keep our school community safe.

As you are aware, we have all worked hard during the pandemic to mitigate the risks. The pandemic is not over and with the emergence of the new, more transmissible Omicron variant we are seeing case numbers rise in Blackburn and Darwen and therefore we all need to take extra steps to be careful and keep our school community safe.

Home Testing - Pupils without symptoms

Please can you continue to test your child with the Lateral Flow Tests (LFT) late on Sunday evening or before returning to school on Monday 17 January 2022. Please then continue to test your children twice a week, at home throughout the term.

All results should be reported via the NHS Test and Trace website. Also report a positive result to school immediately and follow the stay-at-home guidance.

Lateral flow tests can be ordered online [Order coronavirus \(COVID-19\) rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests) or picked up for free from most local pharmacies. School have sent home tests for those pupils whose parents consented.

PCR testing for pupils with symptoms –

Lateral flow tests are taken by people who **do not** have COVID-19 symptoms. Anyone who develops symptoms should stay at home and self-isolate and take a PCR test. They must self-isolate if they get a positive test result, even if they have had a recent negative lateral flow test – these rules have not changed.

Close contact with a positive case -

If a child is a close contact with a positive case, please inform Crosshill. They do not need to self-isolate but are strongly advised to take a LFT before coming to school for 7 days as a precautionary measure. However, if your child has symptoms, you should book a free PCR test for them.

Covid vaccinations -

First, second dose and booster vaccinations are available for 12 years+ Ewood Park Car park has a drive through/ walk in vaccination centre open from 8.30 am to 9.30 pm 7 days a week.

Prepare and flourish

Face coverings -

Whilst exemptions apply, we would encourage pupils, if possible, to wear face masks on transport and in the communal areas. They are not required outside.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any queries, please contact our covid co-ordinator Paula Thornton or Kay Naylor.

Yours sincerely

Lia Gardner

Mrs L Gardner
Headteacher