

Headteacher
Mrs Sophie Gosden



National Support School
designated by



National College for
Teaching & Leadership

25th January 2022

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

Need for 10 days COVID Isolation.

Pupils and staff who need to isolate as a result of COVID need to isolate for the full 10 days. If your child tests positive, their self-isolation period includes the day their symptoms started (or the day they had the test, if they do not have symptoms) and the next 10 full days.

We appreciate that is different to the recently publicised 5-day isolation for the general public.

On 13th January the Department of Health and Social Care published an article that stated that If you leave isolation on day 6, after 5 full days of isolation, between 20% and 30% of people are still infectious.

This is because the guidance [How long to self-isolate - Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - NHS](#) states that when self-isolation is stopped early after 5 days, contact needs to be limited with people at higher risk of serious illness from COVID-19. Pupils who are considered to be particularly vulnerable, clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV), and high or higher-risk and therefore at risk of serious illness are now required to be in school. As I am sure you understand pupils returning after 5 days, when they are still potential infectious, put these vulnerable pupils at an unacceptable risk.

Like pupils and their families, we want all of our pupils where they need to be, back in school and appreciate that this is not the message you would want to hear. Throughout the pandemic, we have followed and responded to the guidance of the DfE and the NHS in the best interest of the pupil's staff and wider society, even when, as on this occasion there is ambiguity between the advice we are receiving and the media messages.

We will of course update our procedures when the guidance changes.

Kind regards,

Sophie Gosden
Headteacher

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