

MUGGINTON C. E. PRIMARY SCHOOL Mugginton, Ashbourne Derbyshire DE6 4PL Telephone: 01335 360261 www.muggintonschool.co.uk

> Headteacher: Mr J Green 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022

## Dear Parents

I hope you had an enjoyable half-term week and I am sure you heard the announcement regarding changes to Covid-19 self-isolation guidelines. It is wonderful that after two long years we are edging towards life without Covid restrictions, although who knows what the remainder of the year will bring us!

The Department for Education wrote to schools sharing the updated guidelines during half-term. The bold text comes directly from the DfE email.

## Changes to self-isolation and daily testing of close contacts

From Thursday 24 February, the Government will remove the legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test. Adults and children who test positive will continue to be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 full days, and then continue to follow the guidance until they have received 2 negative test results on consecutive days. In addition, the Government will:

- No longer ask fully vaccinated close contacts and those aged under 18 to test daily for 7 days, and remove the legal requirement for close contacts who are not fully vaccinated to self-isolate.
- Staff, children and young people should attend their education settings as usual. This includes staff who have been in close contact within their household, unless they are able to work from home.

You will see that the advice from the 24<sup>th</sup> February is for people who contract Covid to remain at home for at least 5 days and until they have returned two negative lateral flow tests. However, **these are now guidelines rather than legal requirements**.

We ask parents/carers to continue to adhere to these guidelines. This will help other children and staff to remain covid-free and, therefore, minimise disruption to daily school life.

As Mrs Wallen's absence reminds us, Covid is still with us and can affect people's health significantly.

Many thanks for your support with this matter.

Joseph Green