



Estcots Primary School,
Bourg de Peage Avenue,
East Grinstead,
West Sussex.
RH19 3TY
01342 327473
office@estcots.co.uk

Headteacher
Mrs Rachel Brock

3rd January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

Happy New Year. I hope that you and your families were able to enjoy a break.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone return to school tomorrow. We appreciate that there is some anxiety about the Omicron variant and difficulties that this might present. Attending school in person is the best way for our children to learn. I want to reassure you that we continue to prioritise this whilst balancing the ongoing risks presented by Covid-19. With that in mind, please read and take note of *all* these important reminders about the return to school this term.

Most importantly of all, please do not send your child to school if they are showing any symptoms of Covid-19. [Instead you must self-isolate and follow the latest national guidance.](#)

The guidance on testing if you have had COVID within the last 90 days has changed. Even if your child tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 90 days, they are **strongly encouraged** to take a test if they have any symptoms.

If your child has tested positive for COVID during the school holiday, they should test at home once they have completed their isolation period before returning to school.

Self-isolation rules have changed

Since Wednesday 22 December, the 10-day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances, unless you cannot test for any reason.

Individuals may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. If both these test results are negative, and you do not have a high temperature, you may end your self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to your education setting from day 8.

Daily testing for close contacts of COVID-19

People who are fully vaccinated, or children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months, identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, should take an LFD test every day for seven days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time.



We are starting the term with three class teachers absent Mr Alexander, Mrs Duffield and Miss Hitchman all of whom have tested positive and despite having previously had covid and being vaccinated have to isolate awaiting their PCR results. We are hoping Mr Alexander will be back imminently as he is coming to the end of his isolation period.

We have a number of other staff also isolating. Due to high levels of absence we are only able to cover mornings to open the office for emergency enquiries only. Please email office@estcots.co.uk this email is regularly monitored.

Thank you for your cooperation in these challenging times.

Yours faithfully



Mrs Rachel Brock
Headteacher