

Be Kind, Be Safe, Be Respectful

The value we are looking at this half term is Perseverance . Our HeartSmart focus is: Too much selfie isn't healthy!

Tuesday 4th January 2022  
Spring 2022 Newsletter 1

Things to remember:

- Spring Term sports clubs - there are a few places left - sign up via the following links:  
[Girl's Football Club](#)  
[Tag Rugby Club Spring 2022](#)
- Mrs Norman's reading challenge - there is still time to complete this! The closing date for returning to school is the 10th January
- Bennett's fish and chip van will be on the school playground from 2.30pm this Wednesday-please be aware if you use the playground to collect children at pick up time. Serving from 5pm!

Dear Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome back to school, and a Happy New Year to all our friends and families! I hope everyone had the opportunity to enjoy some sort of break over the holidays - I was secretly quite grateful for the bad weather at times, as it meant I had the perfect excuse to stay in and do very little - just what was needed!

I am hopeful that, despite understandable concerns around the spread of the Omicron variant, that we will have a less disrupted term than last term - I think we are due a more peaceful few weeks after the run up to the Christmas holidays! I have outlined the recent changes to testing and isolation below - any questions, please get in touch and I will do my best to answer them.

Please be aware that the new variant in many cases starts with cold-like symptoms, and I would ask you to be vigilant for this. My main concern is keeping classes open - if we have a number of staff ill we may be forced to close classes, and if teachers are poorly there will be limited online learning provided. The best way to avoid this is by us all working together to ensure that the virus does not get into school in the first place.

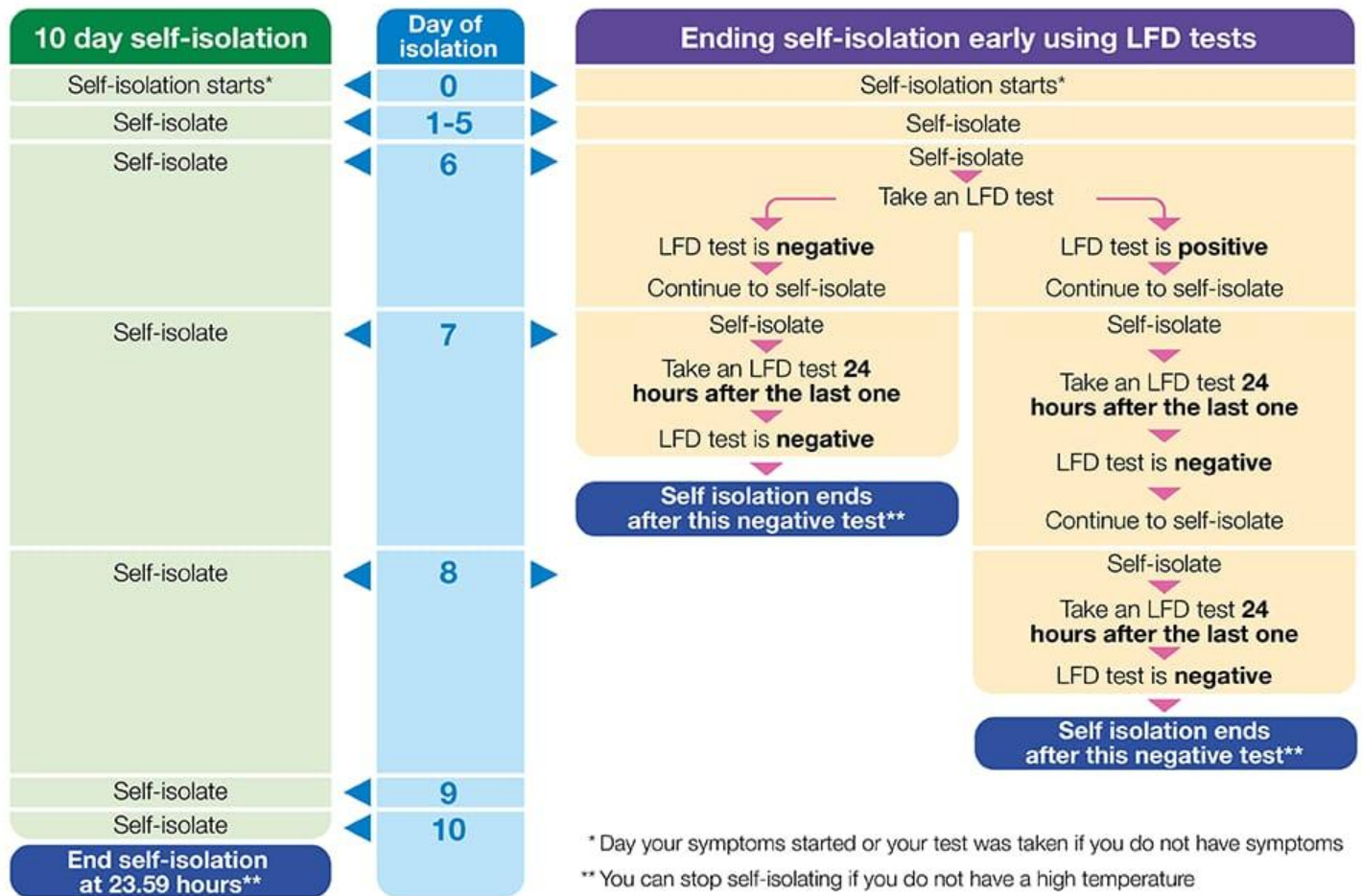
### Changes to Self-Isolation Rules

Please see the image below which I hope clearly illustrates the changes that have been made to self-isolation rules. I am fully aware there is currently enormous pressure on accessing tests of any kind, and this in turn will impact people's ability to follow these guidelines.

In short, the guidance now states that positive cases, and this includes children from the age of 5 and under 5 at parent's discretion, can take an LFT on days 6 and 7 of isolation. **These tests must be 24 hours apart.** If they are **both** negative, self-isolation can then finish.

If either test is positive you must continue to self-isolate. You can stop testing on day 10 and finish self-isolating as previously.

In either scenario, you must **not** finish any self-isolation if you continue to have a high temperature - you must wait 48 hours once the temperature has returned to normal before self-isolation finishes or seek medical advice.



Further government guidance can be found here: [How long to self-isolate](#)

It is worth noting the guidance currently states that if you do complete self-isolation 'early' you should limit contact with those at higher risk and wear a face covering in crowded places or where there is poor ventilation - this seems to be something of a grey area for schools and we have been advised by Public Health that if there are other people in the household still testing positive it is not advised for children to return to school before the 10 days is completed, regardless of their testing status. As always, please contact us if this affects you and we will do our best to help.

If you are a close contact of someone who has had a positive test, you are now strongly recommended to undertake an LFT daily for 7 days, even if you are fully vaccinated - details can be found here; [Guidance if you are in contact with a positive case](#)

Otherwise, the school will continue to follow the same risk assessments and procedures as previously - we will update you if anything changes. We look forward to a busy and productive term - we have lots of activities, trips and visitors planned and see no reason why any of this cannot go ahead. Thank you all for your continued support,

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Collings

## Calendar Dates- SpringTerm 2022

| Date                 | Time     | Event   |
|----------------------|----------|---|
| <b>JANUARY 2022</b>  |          |   |
| Friday 21st          | Am<br>Pm | Y4 trip to Dorchester Museum<br>Y3 working with AKA Dance Troop     |
| Friday 28th          |          | Whole School sponsored silence - School Council - details to follow |
| <b>FEBRUARY 2022</b> |          |   |
| Friday 4th           |          | Number Day  |
| Friday 18th          |          | Last day of half term   |
| Mon 21st - Fri 25th  |          | HALF TERM BREAK   |
| Mon 28th             |          | INSET Day   |
| <b>MARCH 2022</b>    |          |   |
| Tuesday 1st          |          | Children return to school - start of second half term               |