



G A Y T O N   P R I M A R Y   S C H O O L  
G A Y T O N   R O A D   •   H E S W A L L   •   W I R R A L   •   C H 6 0   8 P Z

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April

Dear Parents & Carers,

**Re: Updated COVID guidance from the DfE**

Please see below an important message from the DfE in regards to the changes in measures and guidance for managing COVID-19 in education and childcare settings from Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April.

On Tuesday 29 March, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Sajid Javid, set out the [next steps for living with COVID-19](#) in England from **Friday 1 April**.

Free COVID-19 tests will continue to be available for specific groups, including eligible patients and NHS staff, once the universal testing offer ends on Friday 1 April. **Parents will no longer be able to access free lateral flow devices (LFD's) and all PCR centres are closing.**

Updated guidance will advise:

- **adults with the symptoms of a respiratory infection, and who have a high temperature or feel unwell, should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature**
- **children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend**
- **adults with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days, which is when they are most infectious. For children and young people aged 18 and under, the advice will be 3 days.**

The population now has much stronger protection against COVID-19 than at any other point in the pandemic. This means we can begin to manage the virus like other respiratory infections, thanks to the success of the vaccination programme and access to antivirals, alongside natural immunity and increased scientific and public understanding about how to manage risk.

For education and childcare settings from **Friday 1 April**:

- **regular asymptomatic testing is no longer recommended in any education settings. Therefore, settings will no longer be able to order test kits**

In order to support our school community and keep rates down, if children are unwell, they should not come to school, especially if they have a temperature. I would also like to remind you that children need 48 hours at home after being sick or having diarrhoea.

Thank you for your continued understanding and support.

Kind regards,

Mrs McAleny

**Headteacher: Mrs McAleny**

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