

RISEDALE SCHOOL

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Wednesday 19th January 2022

Dear parent/carer,

SUBJECT: Increased cases of COVID-19 in Year 10

I write to inform you that there have been a number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 within Year 10 at Risedale School.

The school remains open and your child should continue to attend school unless they develop symptoms of COVID-19 or are unwell. If they do develop symptoms, please keep your child at home and book a PCR test for them.

We strongly encourage your child to continue testing twice-weekly, at home, 3-4 days apart using Lateral Flow Tests (LFD) to help identify individuals with COVID-19 who are not displaying symptoms. If your child gets a positive LFD test they must isolate straight away. They do not need to go for a PCR test to confirm this result. Please inform the school if your child tests positive.

If your child does develop any of the 3 main COVID-19 symptoms they should stay at home, self-isolate and take a PCR test, not an LFD test. The 3 main symptoms of COVID-19 remain a fever (temperature 37.8°C or higher), a new continuous cough, or a change to/loss of taste or smell. However, other commonly reported symptoms of recent variants include headache, sore throat, tiredness, and cold-like symptoms, so please be aware of these as well and stay at home and seek further testing if you are in any doubt. Please inform the school if your child tests positive.

You need to report each test result (positive, negative or void): To the NHS Test & Trace self-report website: <u>Report a COVID-19 rapid lateral flow test result</u> and to the school: <u>PUPILS Home Test Result</u> Form.

Test and Trace: Schools are no longer expected to identify the close contacts of cases of COVID-19 (unless in very exceptional circumstances) - this is done by the national Test and Trace system who may be in touch with you in the coming days if your child is identified as a close contact by them, but as a school, we will not pass personal contact details on to the case[s] to share with Test and Trace.

Close Contacts: Children who are identified as close contacts of someone with COVID-19 are no longer required to isolate unless they develop symptoms. However, they are advised to undertake daily lateral flow testing for 7 days as they are at a higher risk of developing COVID-19 in the days after the contact.

- Additional LFD tests can be ordered online <u>HERE</u> or by calling 119. They can also be collected from many local pharmacies.
- PCR tests can be accessed <u>HERE</u>. A list of local testing facilities and opening times is available here: <u>Coronavirus (Covid-19) testing | North Yorkshire County Council</u>

We appreciate that you may find this concerning, but we would like to assure you that we continue to take stringent measures to reduce the risk of the spread of COVID-19.

Thank you for your continued support,



Mr Colin D Scott Headteacher















Stonewall