



GARNTEG PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Dear Parent/Carer,

We are really pleased to welcome all children back to their classes and our nursery new starters on Thursday 6th January at the normal times. Breakfast club will be operating as normal from 8.30 onwards.

If possible please could you test your child before returning to school on Thursday 6th January. LFT KITS ARE AVAILABLE VIA YOUR LOCAL HEALTH AND PHARMACIES. THEY ARE FREE OF CHARGE. Please see important information on these below once supplies have been delivered to schools via the LA.

We hope you have had a safe and healthy start to the new year. As you will know there have been changes to the Covid-19 schools operational guidance that was published on the Welsh Government site December 31st. The following guidance is a summary of the main changes which we hope you will find useful.

LFT test supplies for primary schools 1 pack every child

Initial supplies of LFT kits are being made available to all pupils via your local authority to support the new arrangements for learners identified as contacts of a positive case (see below). They will be in school when delivered by the LA - 1 pack of 7 for every child. Hopefully we will be able to send them home with pupils by Friday.

Changes to self-isolation arrangements for those identified as contacts of a positive case

Arrangements on self-isolation have changed. All over 18s who are fully vaccinated (having received two full doses of an approved vaccine) and children aged 5 to 17 are now asked to take lateral flow tests (LFTs) every day for 7 days if they are identified as a contact of a positive COVID-19 case. This is known as 'Daily Contact Testing'.

We recommend those undertaking Daily Contact Testing take their test before they arrive at school each day. These individuals do not need to self-isolate for that day unless they have a positive lateral flow test or develop symptoms. In

either of these cases, they should book a PCR test as soon as possible. Unvaccinated adults identified as a contact of a positive COVID-19 case must isolate for 7 days.

Anyone identified as a contact, who is fully vaccinated or aged 5 to 17 can access daily contact testing instead of self-isolation, regardless of whether they are a household or close contact.

Primary schools will shortly be receiving an initial supply of LFTs – initially via their local authority and then directly to schools. These tests are being made available to ensure that parents who are unable to access tests via other routes are able to access LFTs if their child is identified as a contact. Your local authority will be in touch shortly to explain how LFT kits for 5-11 year olds will be made available. Primary schools will be able to order further supplies of test kits in due course for learners aged 5-11 using the same method as currently used for staff members.

Primary and secondary staff and secondary age learners are advised to undertake LFT testing three times a week at present on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday using LFTs and record their results – this should continue. Where a member of staff becomes aware that they are a contact of a positive case via any means then they should undertake LFT testing for 7 days and then revert to testing 3 times a week as advised for education staff.

If someone in your household has coronavirus symptoms or has tested positive for coronavirus, you should follow the [latest guidance](https://gov.wales/contact-tracing-if-you-are-identified-close-contact). <https://gov.wales/contact-tracing-if-you-are-identified-close-contact>

Yours sincerely

Ms L Sparkes
Chair of Governors
Mrs S Roche
Headteacher Garnteg Primary School

