

## COVID 19 symptoms, testing and self-isolation.

This protocol on testing and self-isolation has been created in line with the new Government Guidance for Schools published in August 2021. This protocol will apply to all members of Cranleigh School and Cranleigh Prep School and their families.

The three cardinal symptoms which require someone to self-isolate and get a test are:

- A temperature, fever or feeling feverish. This is defined as **37.8** or greater
- A new and continuous cough. As a guide, 'continuous' is coughing a lot for an hour, or three or more coughing episodes in 24 hours.
- Loss of sense of taste or smell.

It is very important that any pupil, staff member, or any member of their family, gets a **PCR test** as soon as possible after their symptoms start. Lateral Flow Tests are for asymptomatic testing only and should not be used if anyone displays symptoms. If there is a long delay between the start of any symptoms and a test, then individuals are potentially infectious and spreading the virus. It also makes it more difficult for a medical professional or the School to judge when Covid-19 symptoms started and thus how long isolation should continue.

**It is very important that all members of the School and their families self-declare if they have started to show symptoms and are self-isolating before getting a test. It is also important that everyone within the household complies with the guidance.**

The government guidance on testing and the required period of self-isolation is explained further below.

### Positive Lateral Flow Test Result

- If a Lateral Flow Test result is positive, whether the test was administered at home or in school, that person must return or remain at home and immediately book a PCR test. This can be done by using <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>
- If the pupil is at home when the test is taken they must inform their Housemistress / Housemaster of the situation as soon as possible
- Pupils must remain at home until the result is confirmed. A negative result means the pupil can return to school immediately, as long as they remain symptom free and the PCR test was taken within two days of the positive LFT.
- If a pupil is one of our overseas boarders, we will arrange for them to isolate in school until a Guardian is able to collect them.

- If a Lateral Flow Test comes back positive and the individual **is not tested with a PCR within 2 days of the symptoms beginning**, we will take the date of the positive PCR test as the date at which self-isolation begins.

## Positive PCR Result

- If a PCR result is confirmed as positive, the individual must self-isolate straight away to avoid spreading the infection to other people
- The self-isolation period includes the day symptoms started (or the day the test was taken if no symptoms appeared) and the next 10 full days
- Please inform the School as soon as possible with the result
- NHS Track and Trace will contact the pupil or parents to discuss who they need to identify as a close contact. The School is no longer leading this process although we will keep our own information up-to-date, for example seating plans in classrooms to help ensure that families have an accurate list

Pupils who have received a positive PCR result should keep a note of the test date and not re-test for a further 90 days unless they start to display symptoms. Pupils will be asked to re-join the asymptomatic testing once the 90 days have passed.

## Close Contacts

If someone you live with has symptoms of Covid-19, or has tested positive for Covid-19, you will **not** need to self-isolate if any of the following apply:

- You are fully vaccinated – this means 14 days have passed since your final dose of a Covid-19 vaccine given by the NHS
- You are under 18 years and 6 months old
- You are taking part, or have taken part, in a Covid-19 vaccine trial
- You are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

You may get contacted by NHS Track and Trace who will advise you that you have been identified as a close contact and explain the actions you need to take.

Even if you do not have symptoms but have been identified as a close contact, you should get a PCR test to check if you have Covid-19. If, however, you have tested positive for Covid 19 in the past 90 days, then you should **not** go for a PCR test as it may still come back as positive. If your child falls into this category, they should only take a PCR test if they start to display new symptoms.

## Vaccinations

The School will not be running a vaccination programme at this stage. Vaccinations can be arranged using <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/>

## Private Testing

**If you are considering private testing, it is necessary to ensure:**

1. That the kit has the CE mark;
2. That the lab is accredited (i.e., via the UK Accreditation Service); and
3. That the laboratory is reporting the results to PHE (as it is a statutory notifiable disease). Once a case is logged in PHE's Second Generation Surveillance System, it will automatically be pulled into the Track and Trace system, regardless of the lab in which the test was conducted.

It is absolutely crucial that we can trust the test result so, if you do elect to use a private supplier, please also provide information which demonstrates that the test supplier met these criteria (e.g., via a link to their website) when you notify the School of the result.

By following these recommendations we can be sure that we have taken every step to ensure the safety of all pupils and staff.

## Availability of boarding

If a family member begins to self-isolate before a test, or has tested positive, and has not had contact with their child at Cranleigh, then that child may wish to board as a precautionary measure and not come home for the family's self-isolation period. This applies equally to day pupils as long as we can find space.