

St Thomas á Becket Church of England Federation

Blackboys CE Primary School
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Framfield CE Primary School
The Street
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Headteacher: Mr G Sullivan

Headteacher: Mrs L Pestell

Dear Parents/Carers

We are sure you have followed recent developments in Covid-19 Guidance. After nearly 2 years of following guidance as carefully as possible to keep our communities safe, we wanted to write to you to explain the current circumstances.

From 24 February *“the Government will remove the legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test. Adults and children who test positive will continue to be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 full days and then continue to follow the guidance until they have received 2 negative test results on consecutive days.”* Also from 24th February, the Government will, *“no longer ask fully vaccinated close contacts and those aged under 18 to test daily for 7 days and remove the legal requirement for close contacts who are not fully vaccinated to self-isolate.”*

From a school perspective, we ask staff and families to follow that advice.

- If pupils are too poorly to attend school, they should remain at home until they are better.
- While testing is still available, we would recommend the use of Lateral Flow Tests to detect Covid-19 and use the tests to guide the release from advised isolation (at least 5 days and following 2 negative lateral flow tests).
- If a child tests positive, they should remain at home for at least 5 days until they have received 2 negative lateral flow tests.

When tests kits are no longer freely available, we will need to use our common sense, as we do with illnesses such as Flu and stay at home when we are unwell and likely to be infectious. We understand that free testing will cease on 1st April.

We have learnt many lessons during the Pandemic. We will continue to take preventative measures such as good hand hygiene and ventilation in school to reduce all illnesses. If staff or parents wish to wear a mask inside school or in large gatherings, they are entirely at their liberty to choose to do so. It will be personal choice.

Please continue to communicate with school regarding your child’s health and potential absence. We are here to help and advise. Thank you for your ongoing patience and support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Lisa Pestell
Headteacher, Framfield

Mr Graham Sullivan
Headteacher, Blackboys