

People Directorate

Depute Chief Executive and Director - People: Douglas Hutchison

County Buildings
Wellington Square
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Our Ref: DH/LD Your Ref:

Date: 6 January 2022



Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you have all enjoyed the festive break with your families.

As you will be aware, the First Minister's announcement yesterday confirmed a number of changes to the rules regarding isolation. Information on these changes and when the rules apply can be found on the [NHS Inform website](#). In summary the key changes are as follows:

- Positive cases are advised to self-isolate for 10 days. However, if the individual returns two consecutive negative LFD tests taken at least 24 hours apart with the first test no earlier than day 6 they may end isolation before the end of the 10 day period if they have no fever.
- Close contacts who are fully vaccinated, having received 3 doses of the vaccination (plus 14 days) or are aged under 18 years and 4 months, can take daily LFD tests for 7 days instead of isolation - provided the tests are negative and they remain without symptoms. If someone has not received 3 doses of the vaccination, they will need to book a PCR test and even if this is a negative result, they will need to isolate for 10 days. Children under 5 are encouraged but not required to take a test.
- Advice on confirmatory PCR tests - where people test positive on a lateral flow device (LFD) test without symptoms, they are now not advised to get a PCR test to confirm infection but to follow isolation advice as it applies to them as a positive case.

The rules do not apply retrospectively and still require any child or young person who tested positive prior to midnight on 6th January 2022 to follow the isolation advice previously provided to them.

As always, anyone displaying symptoms of Covid should book a PCR and isolate pending the result.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding at this time when the situation and guidance change so quickly. We will continue to provide information to you as changes occur.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Douglas Hutchison'.

Douglas Hutchison
Depute Chief Executive and Director - People