



The Sutton Academy

Together Students Achieve

Principal: Mr Paul Willerton

14 January 2022

COVID-19 & Academy Attendance Procedures

Dear Parent/Carer

Please note the latest key changes to government guidance around testing and self-isolation requirements and how this affects our attendance reporting procedures:

Testing

From 11 January the government temporarily suspended the requirement for a confirmatory PCR Test when testing positive on a Lateral Flow Test, **if you do not have symptoms (asymptomatic)**.

It is very important that you report the result of each test to both the NHS and The Sutton Academy. If your child tests positive, he/she should self-isolate immediately (please see updated self-isolation guidance below).

PCR tests must still be booked if your child has symptoms. They need to follow the stay at home guidance and self-isolate until they have the result of the PCR test.

Self-isolating (after testing positive for Covid-19)

Self-isolation can now end for staff and students earlier than 10 days. Students can take a Lateral Flow Test from the fifth day of their isolation period, and another Lateral Flow Test on the following day. The second Lateral Flow Test should be taken at least 24 hours later. If these tests are negative and they do not have a high temperature, they can end their self-isolation and return to the academy that day. They should continue to test on days 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10, in the morning, before attending the academy that day. If any of these Lateral Flow Test results are positive, your child should isolate and wait 24 hours before taking the next Lateral Flow Test

For example, if your child has tested positive for Covid-19, they can take a Lateral Flow Test on day 5 and day 6 of their self-isolation. If both these results are negative, they can return on day 6 to the academy, making sure they test themselves each morning on days 7, 8, 9 and 10. If they were still to be positive on day 5, they would need a negative result from their day 6 and day 7 tests before returning that day. To leave self-isolation before the 10 days, two negative results are required 24 hours apart. If a student continues to test positive on the Lateral Flow Test after day 10, they can still end their self-isolation after the 10 days.

Important: You must contact the Academy Attendance team each day from day 5 onwards via the email address Covid19@thesuttonacademy.org.uk to inform us of further Lateral Flow Test outcomes.

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If we receive no contact, absences from day 6 onwards will be marked as unauthorised so it is vitally important that you communicate with us.

Over the coming weeks you may receive further correspondence from the academy relating to your child's attendance, please do not be offended if you receive a call or letter from a member of the Attendance Team or the Pastoral Team requesting a meeting. We want to offer support in ensuring that all of our students attend the academy as much as possible, even during the pandemic.

Yours sincerely

Mr R Hodgson

Assistant Principal

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