

**YCAT**  
Yorkshire Collaborative  
Academy Trust

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Headteacher: Mrs E Nayler

26<sup>th</sup> January 2022

To Parents / Carers,

### Tracing close contacts and Self-isolation

Following the increase in cases in our early years classroom, we have sought additional advice. Our attention has been brought to the latest guidance about tracing close contacts and self-isolation. Please note the highlighted advice for those with children under 5 years, however this information is relevant to all.

#### Tracing close contacts and self-isolation

Close contacts in early years settings are now being identified by NHS Test and Trace and education and childcare settings are no longer expected to undertake contact tracing.

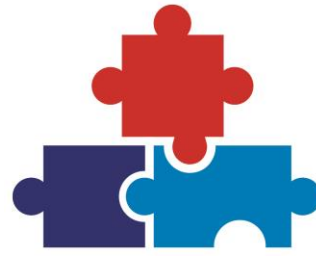
As with positive cases in any other setting, NHS Test and Trace will work with the positive case to identify close contacts and/or their parent or carer to identify close contacts. Contacts from a setting will only be traced by NHS Test and Trace where the positive case and/or their parent or carer specifically identifies the individual as being a close contact. This is likely to be a small number of individuals who would be most at risk of contracting COVID-19 due to the nature of the close contact. You may be contacted in exceptional cases to help with identifying close contacts, as currently happens in managing other infectious diseases.

From 14 December 2021, adults who are fully vaccinated and all children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 are strongly advised to take a lateral flow test every day for 7 days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result. Daily testing of close contacts applies to all contacts who are:

- fully vaccinated adults – people who have had 2 doses of an approved vaccine
- all children and young people aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, regardless of their vaccination status
- people who are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons
- people taking part, or have taken part, in an approved clinical trial for a COVID-19 vaccine

Children under 5 years who are identified as close contacts are exempt from self-isolation and do not need to take part in daily testing of close contacts. They are advised to take a PCR test if the positive case is in their household.





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Further information is available in:

- NHS Test and Trace: what to do if you are contacted
- stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection

18-year-olds are treated in the same way as children until 6 months after their 18th birthday, to allow them the opportunity to get fully vaccinated. At which point, they will be subject to the same rules as adults and so if they choose not to get vaccinated, they will need to self-isolate if identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19.

Settings will continue to have a role in working with health protection teams in the case of a local outbreak. If there is a substantial increase in the number of positive cases in a setting (see local outbreaks for more information) or if central government offers the area an enhanced response package, a director of public health might advise a setting to temporarily reintroduce some control measures.”

If in doubt, please check [www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus) for the latest information and guidance.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs E Nayler  
Headteacher

