



10th December 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

On-site Lateral Flow Testing of students in January 2022.

On Friday 26th November, the Department for Education asked schools to test students for Covid on-site when they return after the Christmas holidays in January. This sits alongside the Lateral Flow Testing twice weekly that individuals are currently completing at home and offers an additional opportunity for mass testing.

Why are we testing in January 2022?

Rapid testing is a vital part of the Government's plan to suppress transmission of Covid-19 in education settings by identifying asymptomatic positive cases quickly so that those who test positive can self-isolate. This supports ensuring that other students can stay in face-to-face education. The asymptomatic testing programme does not replace the Government's current testing policy for those with symptoms. Anyone who experiences symptoms of Covid-19 should self-isolate immediately and book a PCR test via <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid19/> or by calling 119 in England and Wales.

What do you need to do now?

We are writing to you as you have not previously submitted consent for your child to be tested in school. Testing is not compulsory, but the government requires us to offer you the opportunity to take part in the January return to school testing. Please follow the [consent link](#) where you be able to indicate whether you do, or do not want your child to be tested.

We also ask all pupils to complete a Lateral Flow Test at home before returning to school in January, testing kits can be collected from reception.

If I give consent, when will my child's test take place?

Pupils will only be required to complete one on-site test on 4th January 2022. They will then be issued with a testing pack so that testing can continue at home in line with government guidance. Pupils should arrive to school at normal time and report to their tutor groups. Pupils with consent will be collected from their classes and escorted to the test centre.

What if my child tests positive on the LFT?

You child will be safely isolated within school and you will be contacted so that your child can be collected. You will then need to book a PCR test and follow the latest government guidance on isolation while you wait for results. **We will only make contact with you if your child tests positive**

We thank all our families for their continued support on the Lateral Flow Testing and this will continue to take place twice weekly for the foreseeable future

Mr D Butler
Principal