



Executive Headteacher: Mrs L Whittaker

Head of School: Miss G Yapp

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to you with information about COVID 19 testing of staff in school. From this week, the government are providing rapid lateral flow tests to schools in order that staff testing can be undertaken. Although only a limited number of pupils are attending school at this time, we anticipate testing will continue once all pupils are back and so this information will still be relevant to all parents.

Why are staff being asked to take a test?

Up to 1 in 3 people who have COVID 19 have it without displaying symptoms and so could be spreading the disease without knowing. Therefore, by taking a lateral flow test it will be possible to identify staff who do not display symptoms and reduce the potential spread of the virus across school.

Will my child be tested?

Children will not be tested. Testing is for staff only.

When and where will tests take place?

Staff will take the test at home on a Monday morning and a Wednesday evening and will report the result (positive or negative) to school and to the government.

What happens if the test is positive?

If a staff member tests positive on a lateral flow test, they will begin isolation and book a further test at a test centre.

How will testing affect my child?

By identifying individuals without symptoms, transmission of COVID 19 will be reduced which helps to protect our school and wider community. However, if a staff member test positive on a Wednesday evening this will mean that their contacts (and most likely their bubble) will then be asked to isolate. Where this is the case, we will notify parents by text and the website on a Wednesday evening. Positive tests on a Monday morning should not affect families as over 48 hours will have passed since contact.

In the event that a large number of staff test positive, some bubbles may be closed due to a lack of staffing. Where this is the case, we will give parents as much notice as possible.

Why do staff have a second test?

The second test is to confirm the original result. Where this is positive, any contacts who were asked to isolate will continue to do so. If the second test comes back negative, the staff member and the bubble will be able to return to school as normal.





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I appreciate that you may be concerned about the potential disruption cause by bubble closures and so I wanted to reassure you that this not something that we have decided ourselves as a school but we are undertaking testing at the request of the government and the Department for Education in order to support national efforts in suppressing the virus. We thank you for your continued support. If you have any further questions please contact the school office.

Miss G Yapp
Head of School



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