

29 January 2021

Dear parent or carer,

I hope my message finds you well.

I am writing to let you know about the opportunity for our staff to be regularly tested for COVID-19 as part of the government's national testing programme.

As of next week, we will be offering staff lateral flow device (LFD) test kits to self-swab at home twice a week. Through regular testing, we feel we will be in a stronger position to give our children greater continuity in their education through the pandemic.

The lateral flow device (LFD) test

LFD tests can help identify people who have high levels of the virus but may not be showing any symptoms. This is important as up to a third of individuals who test positive for COVID-19 have no symptoms at all and can therefore spread it unknowingly.

The tests are quick and convenient, allowing results to be delivered in 30 minutes at home.

For information, testing is not mandatory for staff, although participation is encouraged.

What happens if a staff member receives a positive test result?

Staff will report their result to NHS Test and Trace and to the academy. They will need to self-isolate and will also need to arrange a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test to confirm the result.

Staff with a negative test result can continue as normal.

Helping to create an even safer academy environment

Our priority is to keep our students in academy where we can continue to support their education and wellbeing. We believe that through regular testing, we have an even greater chance of keeping our students and staff safe in academy.

Please get in touch in the usual way with any questions. In the meantime, I take this opportunity to thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs M Lathbury-Cox
Headteacher