

27 January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

As you may have heard in the news, the Department for Education has recently announced that it will start a programme of asymptomatic Covid-19 testing in primary schools.

Along with the other protective measures we are taking, testing will allow us to take further measures to help our staff members work in as safe an environment as possible. It is voluntary for staff to participate in the testing and if they choose to participate they are committing to self-administer the test at home and provide their results (positive, negative or void) to NHS Test and Trace.

Staff will be supplied with at-home Lateral Flow Device (LFD) test kits which they will be able to use twice weekly 3-4 days apart before coming into work. The LFDs supplied do not require laboratory processing and can provide a quick result in about 30 minutes.

Staff with a negative LFD result can continue to attend school or nursery after logging their result with NHS Test & Trace.

Staff with a positive LFD result will need to self-isolate immediately in line with the current stay-at-home guidance. They will then take a Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test. Close contacts will not need to self-isolate until a positive PCR test confirms the result.

We have chosen to take our tests on Sunday and Thursday evening. In doing so, we have tried to limit the disruption for yourselves. A positive test on Sunday evening, allows for 48 hours since staff were in close contact with anyone from school and so there would be no class closures. Meaning that we would only potentially have to close a class bubble after a Thursday test, which would mean being contacted over the weekend, allowing for you to make the necessary stay-at-home arrangements.

A Risk Assessment is available on our website: [COVID-19/School Information](#). We are following all the guidance from both the Department for Education and Department of Health and Social Care.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs G Grainger
Headteacher