

March 2021

# COVID 19 Testing in Schools

# Who is being tested and why?



- Testing is **available to all staff & students in school**. Testing is important because you could be carrying the virus and may spread it to others without knowing.
- The **school will continue to operate COVID 19 safety measures** to also reduce the possibility of transmission. These include: Year group bubbles, zoned year group area, use of hand sanitizer, staggered start and finish times, and very importantly – **wearing of masks**.
- On its own Asymptomatic testing will not prevent the transmission of COVID-19, but used with the other tools available it will help to :
  - **Identify and help to prevent staff and students without symptoms from transmitting and spreading the virus unknowingly.**
  - **Allow the school to operate as safely as possible by self-isolating those that are the most contagious as soon as is practical.**

# Who is being tested and why?

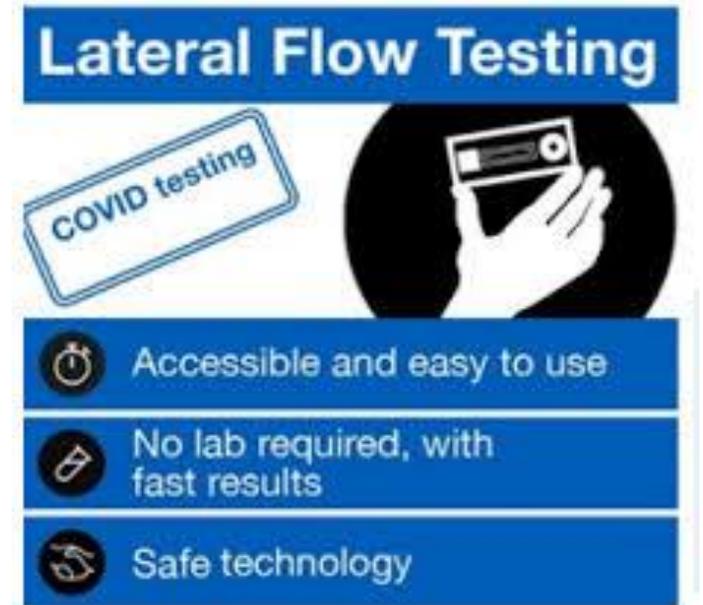
- Asymptomatic testing is done **via simple and quick tests, known as Lateral Flow Device (LFD) tests.** They enable us to:
  - rapidly test students and staff, without the need for a laboratory. No test is 100% accurate, but the LFD, when done as part of a testing regime is very good at picking up those with high viral loads (i.e. those that are the most contagious)

**We are asking our students and staff to help us break the chains of transmission by testing on a regular basis.**



# What testing is required?

- All consenting pupils will be asked to **complete 3 COVID 19 tests in school over a 2-week period**. Each test will be taken 3-5 days apart. Once the three tests have been completed, **all students will move to home testing**.
- The tests in school will give all students the chance to familiarise themselves with self-swabbing.



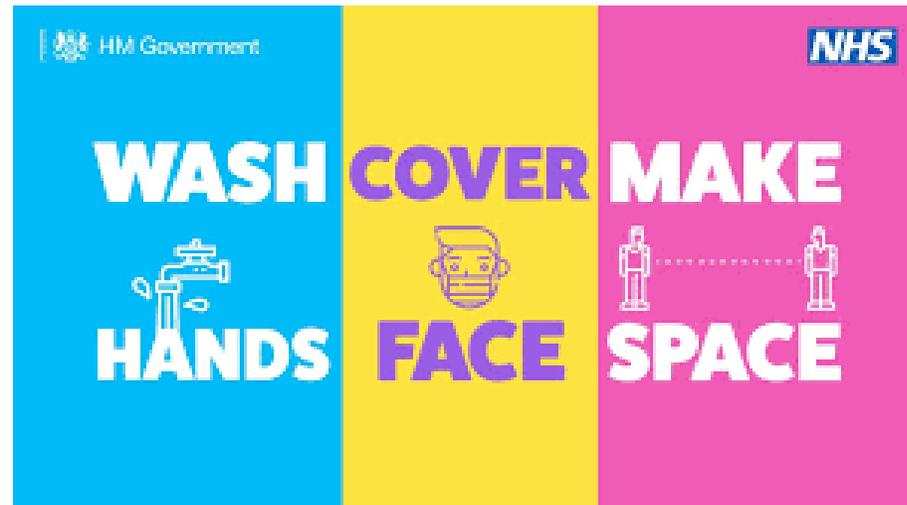
# How to complete the test:



- The Sports Hall has been transformed into **a testing area**.
- Upon arrival you will **sign in at the registration desk** where you will be given an **NHS registration card** – This will allow you to receive your result directly from the NHS via SMS Text.
- Swabbing desks are spaced 2 meters apart to ensure safe swabbing. **A member of staff will advise you on how to complete the test.**
- The test will take approximately 1 minute. The result will be available after 30 minutes.

# Parental consent is required

- Taking part in the testing programme **requires the consent of students and parents** (Where under the age of 16)
- Testing is **NOT compulsory**, but we do encourage as many students as possible to complete the test.
- If you wish to consent, **parents must complete the electronic consent form, [here](#).**



Any questions?

If you have any questions or worries about the testing process, **please email Miss Clark directly.**

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