



**Trinity School**

A Church of England  
Academy

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Ms Jo Hawkin  
Headteacher

15 December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: Lateral Flow Testing (LFT) for COVID19 – Consent required**

I wrote to you last week, in conjunction with the Local Authority and Public Health, about our intention to participate in the pilot project for lateral flow testing for Covid 19. The next stage in our planning is to gather consent from all students and staff that wish to take part. We think that testing is an extremely positive step in ensuring that we can limit the disruption to your child's education that an increase in cases after Christmas could bring. I would urge, therefore, that as many students as possible get tested as part of this pilot.

The Local Authority have said: *"There is a risk of an escalation in the number of positive cases of Covid 19 in schools in the new term. Following the Christmas break and the likelihood of significantly increased transmission rates, particularly within the secondary cohort, an opportunity to remove as many positive but asymptomatic cases from circulation presents an important and time sensitive opportunity."*

I will send further details of how the testing will work later in the week, including the times and days for each year group, when we have talked further with those delivering the programme. At this stage we need to urgently gain your consent. **Please can you follow the link below** to let us know that you give consent, by **Wednesday 16th December** at the latest? We plan to make follow up calls after Wednesday if we have not heard from you, as we urgently need to know numbers taking part for the planning of the project.

[Lateral Flow Test Consent Form](#)

Note that it is unlikely that school transport will be available on the days of the testing. If you wish to participate and your child uses school transport, we will be in touch to ensure a convenient time for you to bring them.

You can find further information about how the test will operated with this letter.

Yours sincerely

Jo Hawkin  
**Headteacher**

## Lateral Flow Testing in School

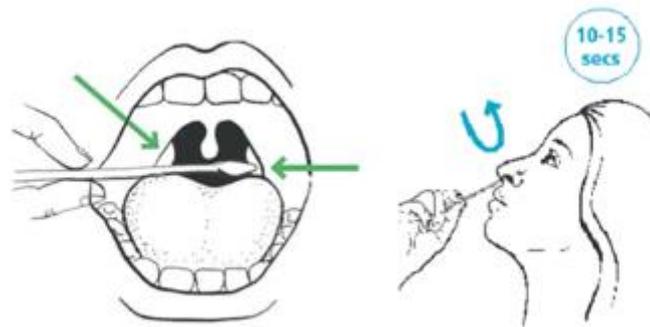
### Aim and Process

Lateral Flow Devices (LFD) are rapid tests that can process COVID-19 samples on site without the need for laboratory equipment and are able to generate results in around half an hour. They help identify COVID-19 infections for asymptomatic people (those who may be affected but do not display symptoms). The fast turnaround of these tests allows positive people to self-isolate quickly and further reduce the risk of transmission of the virus.

Testing will take place in a dedicated area which will be set up in School following strict safety guidelines.

On arrival students and participating staff should wear or will be provided with a face covering at all times and will be directed by school staff when to attend for testing. Trained personnel will welcome them to the test area and provide full information on how to register and complete the test.

The tests involve taking a swab from the back of the throat and nose. This can be done by the person themselves depending on age and ability to do so.



The sample taken is transferred to an absorbent pad on the testing device by a trained test assistant. After half an hour this then shows the result in a small window (similar to a pregnancy test)

Step by step instructions will be provided to all together with support throughout the process. Following each test, staff will let each person know how and when they will receive their result. If a test is positive, the person will need to take and register a confirmatory PCR test on site. A PCR test is conducted in the same way by taking a swab from the throat and nose but this sample requires to be sent away for laboratory testing.

Then they should return home and isolate immediately. If their confirmatory PCR is positive, their household or bubble will also need to self-isolate and NHS Test and Trace may be in touch to contact trace.

The whole process is guided and samples processed by trained personnel following safe operating procedures and wearing personal protective equipment (PPE).

The tests are completely voluntary, free of charge and will require parental consent for students.