

Information about the Lateral Flow Device Tests

Who is being tested and why?

- The Government has set a requirement for secondary school children to take two lateral flow device tests prior to starting school in September.
- Testing is important because children without symptoms could be carrying the virus and may spread it to others
- Testing children will support the school to operate as safely as possible
- Simple and quick tests, known as Lateral Flow Device (LFD) tests, enable us to rapidly test children, without the need for a laboratory
- The tests should be taken 3-5 days apart as this increases the accuracy of the test
- If your child has COVID-19 symptoms or their lateral flow test is positive, they will need to isolate for 10 days

Testing in school

- The testing team is made up of volunteers who have undertaken training to operate the testing unit in school
- There are designated members of the team to guide your child through taking a swab, but they will not provide physical assistance, your child will take the swab themselves
- The swab is then processed on site and a reading is obtained approximately 30 minutes later

What happens if my child does not want to take the test or needs help?

- Staff have been trained to give verbal guidance and can encourage your child, but they will not provide physical assistance. If your child chooses not to take the test, we will let you know.

Receiving your results

- If your child's test is positive, a member of staff will attempt to contact you within an hour of taking the test. At this point you will be offered one of the school's PCR tests to take away, or you may wish to book a PCR test at a NHS test site
- If your child's test is negative you will not be contacted by school
- If your child's test is void, you will be contacted by a member of staff and asked to schedule another test
- Everyone will receive notification of their test result from NHS COVID-19 later that day, whether positive, negative or void