

5 March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Lateral Flow Device (LFD) COVID Testing Plans

I hope this finds you well.

As we eagerly look forward to welcoming our students back into the classroom plans for their return have been meticulously prepared. I hope the following information helps to address any questions that you may have.

On Monday 8 March students in Years 9, 10 and 11 will return to school along with the children of key workers and vulnerable students. On Tuesday 9 March students in Years 7 and 8 will return to school. Students will have the opportunity to receive a Lateral Flow Device (LFD) COVID test on their first day back into school with a second test later in the week.

Is the LFD test mandatory?

No. It is a voluntary test. Testing is not mandatory, however, in the interest of public health and breaking the COVID-19 chain of transmission we would strongly recommend that all students attending school participate in this testing process. To provide consent for your child you can do so on the Academy website <https://bhcet.org.uk/covid19/>

Who will carry out the test?

Students will administer the test themselves, in one of our test Centre's, with the support of fully trained members of staff who will be at hand to offer guidance if students require it. To add a further layer of support pastoral support staff from the Good Shepherd Centre will also be available to support students in the testing Centre.

What does the test involve?

Before any testing takes place students will be able to watch a short information video demonstrating how to carry out the test which involves a simple swab of both nostrils and the back of the throat.

When will I get my child's result?

You will receive a confirmation text from the NHS within 30 minutes of the test having taken place which will tell you the result. In the event, your child returns a positive result, we will immediately contact you. If a student tests positive we would ask parents to follow the current government guidance which presently is a 10 day self-isolation period for both the student and anybody in the students close contact group.

When will the test occur?

Year Group	Test 1.	Test 2	Test 3
Year 11	8 March	11 March	15 March
Year 10	8 March	11 March	15 March
Year 9	8 March	11 March	15 March
Year 8	9 March	12 March	16 March
Year 7	9 March	12 March	16 March

How many tests will my child have to do?

There will be three tests carried out in school, as indicated in the table above, with the fourth test carried out at home. It is the responsibility of parents and carers to record the result of the fourth test with NHS Test and Trace. In the event of a LFD test returning a positive result please inform the Academy and follow the guidelines and advice from NHS Test and Trace.

I would like to thank you all for your support as we continue to look after the health and safety of all of our students and staff as we look forward to welcoming everyone back.

Yours sincerely,



Mr M Scott
Assistant Headteacher