



TO CARE  
TO LEARN  
TO ACHIEVE

**BEDFORD HIGH SCHOOL**  
A Specialist Business and Enterprise College  
with Applied Learning  
Headteacher: Mrs H J Phillips

12<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians

Now that your child has had the opportunity to have 3 Lateral Flow Device tests in school we can transition to home testing. This letter is designed to explain the benefits of testing and what the arrangements for home testing are. I have also attached some information leaflets and a privacy notice. **Students will be provided with their home testing kit after their third test in school.**

**Please note all participation in testing is voluntary.**

**Who is being tested and why?**

Testing is important because you could be carrying the virus and may spread it to others. Testing all staff and students of secondary age and above (11+) without symptoms will support the education sector to continue to operate.

Simple and quick tests using antigen Lateral Flow Devices (LFD) enable the rapid testing of staff and secondary age students, from their home, without the need for a laboratory. Schools have been provided with these test kits to distribute to their staff and students so that they can conduct testing at home.

**Testing will help to break chains of transmission**

You will need to:

- carry out twice weekly testing at home (3 to 4 days apart) before coming into school in the morning
- maintain 'hand-face-space' protocols.

**IMPORTANT:** Tests are only for the use of the person assigned the kits, they should not be taken by anyone else.

This asymptomatic testing programme does not replace current guidance for those with symptoms or those identified as a close contact of a positive case. **Anyone with symptoms**, whether they are involved in this programme or not, should book a free NHS test and follow government self-isolation guidance until the results of their test are known. Testing also does not replace basic preventative measures such as regular handwashing, PPE and social distancing.

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## Participation and Data Protection

Once you and your child have understood the testing process by watching the video on this link <https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvaBZskxS7tzQYIVg7lwH5uxAD9UrSzGJ> and reading the information on this link <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1tuYvRbcoXYvnxuv4OLhfK55j9ervL21d>

(You may need to copy and paste this link into your browser)

and you have read the privacy notice (attached), if you choose for your child to participate you are committing to your child self-administering the test supervised by you, or if your child is 11 years of age that you will administer their test, and report the results via the NHS Test & Trace digital platform and to school.

Before taking the test, you and your child must do three things:

1. Read the **privacy notice (attached)** to understand what will happen with their data.

2. Take a copy of the **new Instructions for Use v1.3.2** and ensure it is the correct version – this will be provided to your child by school when they collect their test kit.

**N.B. Instructions for Use are available in different languages please use this link <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/instructions-for-covid-19-self-test.pa>**

3. Provide details for the Test Kit Log – When collecting their test kit at school we will record the following information: Name of school, name of person issuing the test, date of issue, lot number of test kit, name of your child and confirmation from your child that they have received the **new Instructions for Use. Your child will need to sign for their test kits.**

We do not need a consent form, consent is given by your child collecting, opening and completing the test at home.

N.B. People who decline to participate in this testing programme should follow the usual national guidelines on self-isolation and get tested if they show symptoms.

**You are required to report the results of your tests online to <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result> (fastest) or by phone on the number in your Instructions for Use booklet, every time you take a test, even if the result was negative or void.**

If your child's result is positive they should self-isolate and book a PCR test. As detailed in the Instructions for Use booklet, if your child gets a positive test result you will be provided with the next steps to take.

School is not able to view the results that your child uploads to the online service. **Please communicate your child's result to school** by emailing [masstesting@bedford.wigan.sch.uk](mailto:masstesting@bedford.wigan.sch.uk) If your child's result is **positive** please also phone school on 01942 909009 so that we can respond accordingly.

## Incident reporting

### Clinical issue

If there is a clinical incident which led or has potential for harm, you are advised to report it on <https://www.gov.uk/report-problem-medicine-medical-device>

***This is not for seeking immediate medical care. Medical care should be sought through the usual route of contacting 111 or 999.***

**Examples of clinical issues are a swab breaking in the mouth, bleeding, allergic reaction on using the kit, etc.**

**Non-clinical issue**

For incidents occurring at home, you are advised to report any issues (something damaged, or missing or difficult to use in the kit, unable to log result etc.) to 119 in England.

**An example of a non-clinical issue would be missing items from a test kit.**

**Inform School**

You should inform school if you have any ongoing test-related problems, so that we can check if this is a wider issue across other users.

**Anyone with one or more symptoms of coronavirus**

Please remember anyone with a high temperature, a new continuous cough, or a loss or change in sense of smell or taste, should self-isolate and book a test or call 119.

Thank you for your support with the testing programme which is designed to reduce the spread of the virus and support school to operate as safely as possible.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs H J Phillips  
Headteacher