



# Longridge High School

Excellence and ambition from all, for all

9<sup>th</sup> July 2021

## NHS Test and Trace: COVID-19 testing for Staff and Pupils

Dear Parent/Carer,

You may have heard that testing for those without coronavirus symptoms is being undertaken across the country using new, quicker COVID-19 tests known as 'lateral flow devices'. This letter is to help give you more information about the testing programme in our school.

Up to one third of people who have coronavirus are asymptomatic. By testing we will help to reduce the spread in school and college settings through asymptomatic transmission. I am therefore strongly encouraging those returning to school to be tested.

### Plan for testing

We will be looking to test all staff and secondary school pupils as they return to school in line with Government guidance.

### How the tests work

Those taking the test will be supervised by trained staff and volunteers. The lateral flow tests are quick and easy to undertake, using a swab of the nose and throat. Results (which take around half an hour from testing) will be shared directly with the individual participant. The school will inform the pupil of a positive test result. Where participants are under 16, parents or legal guardians will also be informed of a positive test result.

### What if my child tests positive?

If a pupil tests positive on a lateral flow device, they will need to self-isolate immediately and a [confirmatory PCR test](#) ordered. The confirmatory PCR test should be taken within two days of the positive LFD test. If the confirmatory PCR is also positive, follow guidance from NHS Test and Trace and continue to self-isolate.

If the confirmatory PCR is negative the pupil can stop self-isolating and return to school.

Should a confirmatory PCR not be obtained the pupil should self-isolate for 10 days from the result of the positive lateral flow test.

#### Headteacher

Jane Green BA (Hons), MSc, NPOH.

#### Longridge High School

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## What happens if the test is negative?

While a small number of pupils may need to repeat the test if the first test was invalid or void for some reason, pupils who test negative will be able to stay in school and resume their activities as normal.

## What if my child develops symptoms?

This testing programme school is for people with no symptoms. If your child develops symptoms at any time (including a high temperature; a new, continuous cough; or a loss or change to their sense of smell or taste) they must immediately self-isolate and book a test by calling 119 or visiting <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

We will support our staff and pupils throughout, but please contact us if you have any questions. You can contact the office by emailing [admin@lhs.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@lhs.lancs.sch.uk)

Please note that requirements for lateral flow testing and Covid-19 arrangements are subject to change based on advice from the Government.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J. R. Green". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Jane Green  
Headteacher