



Friday, 23rd April 2021

Dear parents/carers,

PCR Testing Update

I hope you are well and your child(ren) have had a good week back in the Academy after the holiday break. I am writing today with a brief update from the NHS on Covid-19 testing.

From Friday 16th April, NHS Test and Trace is asking anyone who receives a positive result for Covid-19 using a LFD test (lateral flow test), whether at home or at school, to then book a PCR test (polymerase chain reaction) to confirm the result. PCR tests are easily accessible at local, government-run testing sites and can be booked either online (www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test) or by calling 119. The NHS are asking for the tests to be undertaken within 2 days of the LFD test.

As a reminder:

1. Students who have a positive LFD test result, and their close contacts and other members of their household, should self-isolate immediately in line with [NHS Test and Trace guidance](#) and while awaiting the PCR result.
2. If the PCR test is negative, it overrides the LFD test and the student can return to school, and their close contacts can end their self-isolation.
3. If the PCR test is positive, the student, and their close contacts and other members of their household, should continue to self-isolate. You can find out how long to self-isolate by [accessing the NHS website](#).

We of course are maintaining all existing protective measures to reduce the risk for everyone. A negative PCR or LFD result does not mean we can relax or ignore social distancing or other virus prevention measures intended to reduce transmission – rapid testing is an additional tool that contributes to reducing risk.

Thank you as ever for your ongoing support in helping us to reduce the risk for everyone.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Livesey
Principal

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