



2 February 2021

Dear Families

Lateral Flow Device (LFD) Testing

You will recall when I wrote to you on 31 December 2020, we were asking parents and carers (and students if over 16) to complete an on-line consent form indicating whether or not you give consent for your son/daughter to have a LFD test upon their return to school.

The guidance on testing has recently changed and the current position, as advised by the DfE, is that secondary schools should only test students twice at the start of their return to school – no further tests are to be conducted at the present time. Staff will however to be tested twice per week.

In anticipation of when students return to school, we are asking families (or students in Years 12 and 13) to confirm whether or not you give consent for a Covid-19 LFD test to be conducted at school. Some families may have already completed the consent form, however, the Government have recently revised the information that families are required to provide, and therefore we are asking all families to complete the updated consent form that can be found [here](#).

Alternatively, a Word version of the form can be printed off, completed and posted back to the school or scanned and emailed to: secretary@hayesbrook.kent.sch.uk. This form is provided with this letter together with the LFD Privacy Notice.

Please also note that sections 7-11 of the consent form do not currently apply as following new advice, NHS Test and Trace and Public Health England are temporarily pausing the need for a confirmatory PCR test following a positive result with a lateral flow test in secondary schools. In the event that a student tests positive they will need to self-isolate in line with government guidelines and close contacts will also need to self-isolate as per the procedures followed in school during terms 1 and 2. We have however kept the requirement for a PCR test and serial testing in the consent form to avoid seeking further consent in the future (if needed).

I will write to you again before your son/daughter returns to school to provide details of the testing schedule for each Year Group. In the meantime, if you would like information about the LFD test, please see the guidance leaflet [here](#).

Should you or a member of your family wish to undertake a Covid-19 test you can arrange to visit one of the testing centres – details can be found in the link here: <https://www.kent.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/health/protect-kent-and-medway/test-and-trace/symptom-free-testing>

As ever, I thank you for your continue support during this difficult time.

Yours sincerely



Sebastian St John
Head of School