

Wilmslow High School

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NHS Test and Trace: COVID-19 testing for Students

Dear Parent or Guardian,

You may have heard that testing for those without coronavirus symptoms is beginning across the country using new, quicker COVID-19 tests known as 'Lateral Flow Devices' (LFD). This letter is to help give you more information about the testing programme at Wilmslow High School. You can find the following helpful documents on the Covid-19 section of the school website by [clicking here](#)

- [Consent form](#) – This **must** be completed prior to testing (you will need the students 'G number' which they know and is the first 6 characters of their school email e.g. G12345)
- Wilmslow High School Terms of Consent
- Wilmslow High School Privacy Notice
- Data Protection Privacy Notice FAQ
- Description of Lateral Flow Device tests
- Lateral Flow Testing Frequently Asked Questions

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. Consequently, the Department for Education, along with NHS Test and Trace, strongly encourage children attending school be tested.

We recognise that the self-swabbing part of the test is an uncomfortable experience and may prove challenging for some children and young people and their families. Some of these concerns may be alleviated by discussing them with school and agreeing strategies to help reduce anxiety and putting in place any reasonable adjustments (if the individual has a disability).

Should you have any further queries please contact our medical needs team via email at medicalneeds@wilmslowhigh.com and we will be able to provide you with advice and guidance.

Plan for testing

Now we have successfully implemented our testing programme for staff and completed over 150 Lateral Flow Device Tests, we are confident in our processes and are able to offer testing to students currently attending school as part of our in-school provisions.

Students will be called from their lessons at a convenient time and will be supported to perform the test themselves.

How the tests work

Those taking the test will be supervised by trained staff. The Lateral Flow Device Tests are quick and easy to undertake, using a swab of the nose and throat. Results (which take half an hour from testing) will be shared directly with the individual participant. We will also confirm the result via the NHS test and trace results service to the mobile phone and email supplied on the consent form. Please note;

- we will not be able to issue these results to multiple contacts as the system does not allow for this.
- The way the system works will mean that we will have to bulk enter results and therefore results may be issued several hours after the test.
- The school will inform the student and parent/carer of a positive test result immediately. Where participants are under 16, parents or legal guardians will also be informed via the contact details provided on the consent form. There will also be a text/email notification of a positive result from the online NHS system.

What if my child tests positive?

If a pupil tests positive on a Lateral Flow Device, they will be informed immediately by our experienced staff and, in keeping with our current policy, kept isolated until we can arrange for a parent/carer to collect them (which should be at the earliest opportunity).

The pupil will need to take a 'PCR test' to confirm the result. This should be on the same day or as soon as possible afterwards. School will be able to provide these PCR test kits to perform at home.

During the time while waiting for the PCR result (via text/email) they will need to self-isolate with the rest of their household.

If the PCR test returns a positive result they and their household will have to continue to self-isolate and follow the guidance from NHS Test and Trace.

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. Pupils will be informed of negative test results. Where participants are under 16, parents or legal guardians will also be informed.

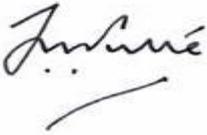
What if my child develops symptoms?

This testing programme at 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 [insert contact details].

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. H. Pullé', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

Dr J H Pullé
Headteacher