

ST HUGH'S SCHOOL



Learn • Believe • Achieve • Together

Bushfield Road, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire, DN16 1NB
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Head Teacher: Tracy Millard

7th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

We are working to keep our school as safe as possible. 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 tests'.

Along with the other protective measures we are taking, these tests will help staff and students to remain in school/college safely. Up to one third of people who have coronavirus experience no symptoms. By testing we will help to stop the virus spread and help to keep our school open as safely as possible. The test is voluntary, but I would encourage everyone to take it.

We will be testing all students who want to participate week commencing 11th January 2021 for the students currently attending school. For all those that will be back at a later date, testing will commence on their return.

Please see the enclosed privacy policy and question and answer sheet to support your decision making.

If you are happy for your child to be tested, please fill in the registration details on the consent form at <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=P-r97dfn2UiCkglOah6eSyZn2GMn8M5Lt9pPhP9p8zpUNIFNTEzZNTRMNU1XVvRUQlpGRII3NUZO> Ni4u (one per pupil/student). This link will also be sent out via text message. Please submit this back to school by end of day Sunday the 10th January 2021.

What if a pupil tests positive?

Participating staff and pupils who test positive will be informed about their results individually. Where participants are under 16, parents or legal guardians will also be notified. Guidance on safe travel and additional precautions will be provided along with test results.

Pupils will need to take a further 'PCR test' (similar to those done in local and regional testing sites) on the same day (or as soon as possible). School will be able to provide these PCR test kits to perform at home or you can go to www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or call 119 to book a follow-up test. If ordering a PCR test yourselves, they should choose to visit a drive-through test site if possible, as it is faster than requesting a home test.

During this time while they wait for the PCR result (via text / email) they will need to self-isolate. If the PCR test returns a positive result you will have to self-isolate and follow the guidance from NHS Test and Trace.

What happens if the test is negative?



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They will be able to stay in school and resume their activities as normal. A pupil will only be told if they test positive on a 'lateral flow' test, so if you do not hear you can assume it was negative. A small number of pupils may need to repeat the test if the first test was invalid or void for some reason.

What is a close contact at school tests positive?

A close contact of someone in school who has tested positive for COVID-19 will be able to return to school if they agree to be tested once a day for 7 days and the test is negative. If they do not want to take the test, they will need to self-isolate as per the national guidelines. This does not apply to household members or close contacts outside of school who will still need to self-isolate. Further details will be provided at the time, but if you would prefer to self-isolate instead of doing daily testing, you can.

What is my child developing symptoms?

This testing programme at school is for people with no symptoms. If your child develops symptoms at any time (such as 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 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 at admin.sthughs@northlincs.gov.uk

Yours faithfully

T Millard
Headteacher



Artsmark
Silver Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England

