

# Littledean Church of England Primary School

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*Loving one another, building each other up*

27<sup>th</sup> January 2021

## Lateral Flow Testing for Staff in Primary Schools

Dear Parents

As some of you might have heard on the news, Lateral Flow Tests have been made available for regular staff testing in primary schools. This is intended to identify positive cases of coronavirus from staff who are asymptomatic (1 in 3 people with Covid-19 don't have any symptoms).

All staff are taking their first tests starting tonight. These will happen twice weekly (Wednesday and Sunday evenings). The Department for Education do not have plans currently for the regular testing of primary school children.

We warmly welcome the introduction of rapid testing for our staff as we strive to make our school as safe as possible for everyone. All staff have agreed to take the tests (they are optional).

Last week we accessed two training sessions with the Department for Education and Public Health to ensure our school administers the tests in line with the guidance.

If a member of staff tests positive, following their Lateral Flow Test, they then need to have this confirmed by taking a PCR test (taken at a drive through test centre) with results normally available within 48 hours. The safety of our school is extremely important to us, therefore we would take these actions should a member of staff have a positive Lateral Flow Test:

- The class/key stage bubble would temporarily close immediately.
- Staff member would have a PCR test.
- Member of staff's PCR test is negative – the class/key stage bubble would open the following day after confirmation of the negative result.
- Member of staff's PCR test is positive – the class/key stage bubble would remain closed with all members of the bubble needing to isolate for 10 days.

By carrying out the Lateral Flow Tests in the evening we are attempting to give you the most possible notice of having to close a class/key stage bubble the next day. We do, however, hope that this will not need to happen and we thank you for your continued support as we try to keep our school community as safe as possible.

Kind regards

Hayley McGoldrick

Head Teacher: Mrs Hayley McGoldrick