

Dear Parent/Carer

Covid-19: Lateral Flow Device Testing in schools and School Community Positive Notifications

With the return of mainstream face-to-face learning in schools from February/March 2021, school staff are now able to access twice weekly lateral flow testing. BCBC has advised that Public Health Wales requires asymptomatic lateral flow tests to be carried out on a Monday morning and a Thursday morning for full-time staff and on days 1 and 4 of weekly shifts for part-time staff.

The aim of introducing rapid testing is to ensure that possible asymptomatic cases of COVID-19 are identified as quickly as possible, to minimise the opportunity for onward transmission and to keep schools as safe as we can. This system runs alongside the existing system of PCR testing carried out by symptomatic pupils and families through the government booking line 119.

If the school receives notification of a positive result from any member of the school community, parents/carers will continue to be informed of this as soon as possible. Where this notification is before school hours, the school will issue a message (text and Parent App) by 07:45, advising that pupils are required to isolate for the immediate 48 hours. Once further information and contact groups have been confirmed by Public Health Wales, you will then receive a text advising the duration of the necessary isolation period (up to ten days). In the case of a positive LFT result and negative follow-up PCR result, the PCR result takes precedence and pupils will be able to return to school. Please note that we will not release personal information about the person who has tested positive and all identified contacts of the person will be required, by law, to isolate. Remote learning will take place through the isolation period for pupil groups required to isolate.

Texts will be sent to the first priority contact for pupils and Parent App messages will be sent to all parents registered for the app in the relevant contact group. We would encourage you to review your details via the SIMS Parent App, where you can check your details and/or securely request that these are amended. If you have not already registered for the app or would like to check your details manually, please contact the school office on admin.broogwr@bridgend.gov.uk.

We hope that this information has been useful to you. Thank you once again for your support in what is an unprecedented time for all.

Kind Regards

YG Bro Ogwr