

# Aylesford School

## and Sixth Form College



### Lateral Flow Testing (LFT) FAQs

**Does my child have to have a test?** These tests are one of the most rational, reliable and socially responsible ways to help school communities remain as safe as possible during the pandemic. The LFT is not compulsory but we very strongly recommend that all parents and carers give their consent for their children's participation in the process. Testing has a vital role in keeping people safe; helping to block transmission of the virus by identifying those who are COVID positive but not displaying any symptoms.

**What happens if I am on holiday on Friday 3rd September and it is their allocated year group test? can't get my child into school on the day of their allocated tutor group tests?** If you are unable to get your child into school on their specified day of testing, a second LFT will be available when they return to school.

**My child has COVID symptoms, should they come in for a test?** No, if your child has one of the classic COVID symptoms, they must not come into school for the LFT but they should book a PCR test ASAP.

**I have forgotten to give consent for my child, can I phone you instead?** We must obtain official online consent for a LFT to be carried out so if you haven't yet consented to your child taking a test, you must do it now. We are unable to accept telephone or email consent but will be happy to provide a copy of the online form to fill in on the day. Please see link on body of email.

**If I do not consent to my child taking a Lateral Flow test?** Testing is not compulsory, therefore if you decide not to give consent for your child to have a LFT, they will be allowed to come to school on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September (Year 7s) or 7<sup>th</sup> September for all year groups, however we would hope that consent is given to keep our staff, our students and the wider community safe. **New students since March 2021 and from September 2021 only need to complete the [consent](#) form stating whether you either give consent or not.**

**Can I take a test home from school for my child to do there?** Guidance is that hat schools test twice times prior to home LFT testing begins.

**My child has already been COVID positive, do they still need to take a test?** Any student who has tested positive for COVID needs to perform the LFT test for a period of 90 days following their positive result.

**My child has had the vaccine, do they still need a test?** Yes, guidance suggests that even if your child has received a vaccine, they still could be an asymptomatic carrier and therefore should still have an LFT.

#### **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).

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?**

They will be able to stay in school and resume their activities as normal at the start of term. 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 if my child develops 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 (England, Wales and Northern Ireland) or 0300 303 2713 (Scotland) or visiting <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

We will support our staff and pupils throughout, but please contact us if you need this information in any other language or format or if you have any questions. You can email the office on [office@aylesfordschool.org.uk](mailto:office@aylesfordschool.org.uk)

### **Day of testing**

**Where does my child have to go on their day of testing?** The testing centre is taking place in the Gym or sports hall. Please note that students must follow the one-way system.

**Can I accompany my child into school?** Due to the normal safeguarding restrictions and, to minimize the transmission of the virus, no parents will be allowed into the school building.

**How long will the testing take?** The testing itself will take around 5 minutes from start to finish. You should drop your child off and wait for them to return. Due to the high number of pupils being tested and limited parking, we kindly ask that once your child has finished their test, that you leave the site promptly to allow for others to arrive.

**Will my child be given help with their test?** There will be a staff member present at each testing station. Every volunteer has been trained and although we will not be carrying out your child's test, we will be there to offer full support, guidance and reassurance.

**When/how will I get my child's test results?** Upon arrival to school your child will be given a registration card, this will have a QR code and barcodes attached so that you can scan the information into your phone. One barcode will be attached to your child's test. You must register with NHS track and trace using the barcode by scanning the QR code using your mobile phone and follow the prompts to register your child's test within 24 hours. Please see link on body of email. **Test site ID: AMLU**



**I haven't had my child's results yet and they took their test today?** You must register your child's card in order to get their results. Due to the mass testing across the UK, once tests have been registered there may be a delay in the NHS system sending the results out so please be patient. The school will not be able to help if there is a delay.