

31st March 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

Re-introduction of confirmatory polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing for positive lateral flow device (LFD) tests at assisted testing sites

From tomorrow, NHS Test and Trace is reintroducing confirmatory PCR testing for positive LFD tests conducted at all assisted testing sites, including schools and colleges. This means that all staff, pupils and students who get a positive LFD test, whether at home or supervised at their school or college, should get a confirmatory PCR. The PCR test should be booked immediately either [online](#) or by calling 119 and should be undertaken within 2 days.

Staff, students and pupils who had a positive LFD test result, and their close contacts and other members of their household, should self-isolate immediately in line with [NHS Test and Trace guidance](#) and while awaiting the PCR result. If the PCR test is negative, it overrides the LFD test and the staff member, pupil or student can return to school or college, and their close contacts can end their self-isolation.

A negative PCR or LFD result should not be read as a means to relax or ignore social distancing or other virus prevention measures intended to reduce transmission – rapid testing is an additional tool that contributes to reducing risk.

Contact tracing over the Easter holidays

To support the NHS Test and Trace process, we have asked that staff are available for the first 6 days of the Easter holiday to fulfil necessary contact tracing responsibilities. This means that with our setting finishing face-to-face education on Wednesday 31 March, we will remain available for contact tracing purposes up to and including Tuesday 6 April. There is no expectation to be on-call after this point.

Please contact admin@st-georges-wrotham.kent.sch.uk or dojo the Headteacher.

Staff, students, parents and carers only need to inform us of a positive case if either symptoms or a positive home LFD test occurred within 2 days of them being at their education setting.



Where this is the case, you are asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in their education setting.

Where symptoms or a positive home LFD test occurred more than 2 days since the person was last at their education setting, this does not need to be reported to you and contact tracing by the education setting is not required. Where this is the case, staff, students, parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

Kind regards

Mrs Elizabeth Rye
Headteacher