

25th March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Lateral Flow Testing at home

I am pleased to report that the testing of students for asymptomatic cases of Covid-19 three times in the first fortnight return has gone very well. My thanks to the students for taking the testing seriously and agreeing to take part, and to those members of staff who have helped us to run the tests smoothly. As described in my previous letter, the next stage for the testing is that students will be supplied with Lateral Flow Test kits to take a test at home, twice a week.

After your young person has completed their final test at school, they will be supplied with test kits to self-swab and test themselves twice a week at home. Students must report their result at home to NHS Test and Trace as soon as the test is completed either online or by telephone as per the instructions in the home test kit.

As an Academy, we would also encourage staff and students to share any positive results with us as soon as possible to help with contact tracing.

- Students aged 11 attending a secondary school can take the test themselves or with the support of an adult.
- Students aged 12 to 17 should self-test and report with adult supervision. The adult may conduct the test if necessary.
- Students aged 18 and over should self-test and report the result, with assistance if needed.

Studies conducted by Oxford University and Public Health England, show that the tests are accurate in identifying a case. The tests have lower sensitivity but they are better at picking up cases when a person has higher viral load, hence the need to test frequently.

As with the testing at school, testing at home is voluntary but strongly encouraged as it provides additional confidence to the whole school community.

If you have already consented to your young person taking lateral flow tests, you will not need to do so again. If you and your child did not consent previously but would now like to opt-in to taking flow tests at home, please let us know by contacting us

admin@oasislisterpark.org. Please also visit

<https://www.oasiscommunitylearning.org/covid> to read the information on consent and our privacy notice.

Principal: Mrs Siân Dover
North Avenue, Bradford, BD8 7ND
Tel. 01274 362 050
www.oasisacademylisterpark.org

A positive test

Should a student receive a positive test at home:

1. Do not come to school. Report your test result to NHS Test and Trace as per instructions in the home test kit.
2. We would also strongly encourage you to share the result with us at school immediately so that we can conduct contact tracing. Please let us know by call **01274 362050** or by emailing **admin@oasislisterpark.org**.
3. Begin self-isolation and arrange a further 'PCR test' (similar to those done in local testing sites) on the same day by calling 119 to book a follow-up test. Remember to minimise any contact with others.
4. Once you have had the further test, continue to self-isolate while you await your result.
5. If the PCR test returns a positive result you will have to self-isolate for the full 10 days and follow the guidance from NHS Test and Trace. If you receive a negative test, you may return to school as normal.

A negative test, or an inconclusive test

Should a student receive a negative test they should attend school as normal. A small number 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 home is for people with no symptoms. If your young person 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 or visiting <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

Households and bubbles of pupils and students

The government has also announced that households and childcare and support bubbles of nursery children, primary and secondary-age students and college students are also eligible to request lateral flow tests at home.

Tests are available through employers, at a local test site, by collecting a home test kit from a test site, and by ordering a home test kit online. You can find out more by clicking here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff> or by searching 'Households of students flow tests.'

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Thank you for your continued support of the academy, and for supporting your child to complete their lateral flow tests regularly at home, to minimise the risk for everyone.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Siân Dover".

Siân Dover
Principal, Oasis Academy Lister Park

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