

26th February 2021

Dear Parent and Carer

Firstly, I would like to thank you for the excellent response in providing consents for your children to take part in the programme of lateral flow testing over the coming weeks. This is really encouraging. It is clear from the communications we have been receiving in recent days, that there is a real appetite (from students and parents) to get back into a routine of regular school attendance as soon as possible. **We would kindly request that all consents are provided 48 hours before the students are due to come in and take their test.** If you have not already given your consent, here is the link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSffU4MwwARpsqjJ9kpiIMCkxSN1YtWxqjzpuBr7xZsq2qhPug/viewform>

I thought it would be helpful to clarify some useful key points about the schedule for the initial testing and to address some questions that we have been receiving:

- The students must bring a face covering to be worn in the indoor areas. They will be asked to remove this briefly during the test.
- The students do not need to wear their school uniform.
- The students must only arrive for the session they have been allocated in order that we can keep to time. **Please ensure that they do not arrive early for their session.**
- In the event of any poor weather, or an overrun of the session before, we will be opening the indoor spaces in Everdene should they be required as waiting areas.
- Parents/Carers are not permitted into the building, but are welcome to wait in their cars in the school car park.
- Siblings cannot attend the same session, as we are required to keep the year group bubbles separate from each other. We are sorry for any inconvenience this causes.
- If students have any allergy issues when using the hand gel that we provide, then they must bring their own.
- If students have any cough or cold symptoms they should not attend the site. If this is the case, please contact: jabbott@budmouth-aspirations.org (Medical/Health & Safety Officer).
- We know that some students may be anxious about taking the tests, but we can assure you that our team of school-based trained helpers will be on hand to help and support them through the process.
- By doing this test in the week before students return to school, we have built in the time to ensure this process can be handled sensitively. We also have a trained Medical/Health & Safety Officer on site should he be needed for any reason.

From our experience of testing the children who have been attending school since January, it is also very helpful if the students have the following information to hand. It makes the process of doing the online registration much quicker:

- Parent/carer mobile number.
- Home address including postcode.
- Date of birth.

I hope that this information has been helpful and am looking forward to seeing the students. I hope that they are looking forward to being able to come back to school.

I would also like to thank our wonderful Support Staff who are supervising the testing. They have spent a lot of time both undergoing training and developing the systems for enabling this wider scale testing programme to be able to take place.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mike Hoffmann
Associate Principal