



Alder Community High School

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Headteacher: Mr R O'Regan BSc (Hons) NPQH

2nd January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer, <https://aldercommunityhighschool.org.uk/school-life/covid-19-testing>

Confirmed Arrangements for In School Asymptomatic Covid-19 Lateral Flow Testing for Students January 2022

The Department for Education announced recently that secondary schools should plan to test all students in school, once on their return to school after the Christmas break. Students should then continue to test twice weekly at home, reporting any positive lateral flow tests to the school via covid-alert@alderchs.uk

All our in school and home lateral flow tests are now **NASAL only swabs** which are much easier to carry out than the nose and throat swabs that we previously carried out.

Consent

Thank you to everyone who has completed the online consent form already. If you haven't done so yet, please provide consent on the following link. <https://forms.office.com/r/uLPWCi0xqy>

Testing is voluntary and requires parental consent; however, **we would strongly encourage everyone to take part** to help break transmission links by identifying those that may be carrying the virus unknowingly.

Updated guidance received on 2nd January 2022 suggests that even if someone has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 90 days, they are strongly encouraged to take part in LFD testing in school and at home once they have completed their isolation period for their prior infection.

If you want to withdraw consent for testing at any time you can email covid-alert@alderchs.uk If your child is over 16 they can self-consent but we would still encourage parents/ carers to discuss participation with their child.

Plan for in school lateral flow testing in January 2022

Year Group	Lateral Flow Test	Time slot drop in by surname		Return to School at 8.20am
Year 7	Wednesday, 5 th January	A - G	Between 10.15am – 11.00am	Thursday 6 th January
		H - R	Between 11.00am – 11.45am	
		S - Z	Between 11.45am – 12.30pm	
Year 8	Wednesday, 5 th January	A - K	Between 1.15pm – 2.00pm	Thursday, 6 th January
		L - Z	Between 2.00pm – 2.45pm	
Year 9	Tuesday, 4 th January	A - D	Between 12.45pm – 1.30pm	Wednesday, 5 th January
		E - N	Between 1.30pm – 2.15pm	
		O - Z	Between 2.15pm – 2.45pm	
Year 10	Wednesday, 5 th January	A - H	Between 8.45am – 9.30am	Thursday, 6 th January
		I - Z	Between 9.30am – 10.15am	
Year 11	Tuesday, 4 th January	A - G	Between 10.30am – 11.15am	Wednesday, 5 th January
		H - Z	Between 11.15am – 12.00pm	

If you have any questions about the lateral flow testing in school, please contact the school office on 0161 368 5132 or email covid-alert@alderchs.uk

Yours faithfully,

R O'Regan
Headteacher



Frequently Asked Questions

What if my child has Covid-19 symptoms?

The testing programme at school is only 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) your child must immediately self-isolate, and you should arrange a PCR a test by calling 119 or visiting <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>. We have a supply of postal PCR tests available at school on request.

What if my child has already tested positive previously for Covid-19?

Updated guidance received on 2nd January 2022 suggests that even if someone has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 90 days, they are strongly encouraged to take part in LFD testing in school and at home once they have completed their isolation period for their prior infection.

What if my child tests positive?

If your child tests positive, we will contact you immediately to let you know. If your child is still in school, a member of staff will discreetly collect your child from their classroom and take them to a safe waiting area until you are able to collect them, or they have permission to walk home. We will make sure that your child is reassured at this stage. Guidance on safe travel and additional precautions will be provided along with test results.

You will need to arrange for your child to take a confirmatory PCR test and they will then need to self-isolate for the next 10 full days. Your child may need to self-isolate for longer if they get symptoms while self-isolating or their symptoms do not go away. Read more about [how long to self-isolate](#).

What happens if the test is negative?

Your child will return to school and continue their activities as normal. A small number of individuals may need to repeat the test if the first test was invalid or void for some reason. You will receive the result later in the day from NHS Test and Trace via text message and e mail.

What if my child has been in close contact with someone at school who tests positive?

Since September, close contacts have been identified via NHS Test and Trace rather than the school. Contacts will only be traced where the positive case specifically identifies the individual as being a close contact. Children will no longer be required to self-isolate, if they are contacted as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case. Instead, they will be advised to take a PCR test even if they do not have symptoms and have tested negative on a lateral flow test.

You may be entitled to a one-off payment of £500 through the [NHS Test and Trace Support Payment scheme](#) if you are required to stay at home and self-isolate or you are the parent or guardian of a child who has been told to self-isolate.

