Tuesday 6th July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Re: Lateral Flow Tests (LFTs) and Polymerase Chain Reaction Tests (PCRs)**

I am writing to clarify the procedures for testing if you or your child feels unwell and to explain the different types of Covid testing that are available to you.

## What are the different types of Covid-19 test?

* Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests are sent away to a lab to diagnose disease
* Lateral flow tests (LFTs) can diagnose Covid-19 on the spot, **but aren’t as accurate as PCR tests**

If your child is experiencing symptoms, please ensure that you **book a PCR test** for your child **and do not complete an LFT**. The PCR is the most reliable form of testing as it is sent away to a lab to be examined by professionals. The LFT tests are for those who are not experiencing symptoms and can give false positive results.

In the past week, two ‘bubbles’ have been closed due to positive LFTs; however, when a PCR test has been completed, these have come back as negative meaning children could return to school.

With less than three weeks until the end of the school year, we really do want to avoid closes classes where possible. Please ensure that you do not complete Lateral Flow Tests with your child as they are not as reliable and it may cause me to have to close classes needlessly.

If your child is unwell, please book a PCR test at a test centre and self-isolate until you receive the result. Then, inform the school immediately so that we can take the correct course of action to keep everyone safe.

Thank you for your support and please do contact me should you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

A close up of a sign

Description automatically generated

Ms. Leah Wright  
Head Teacher