



Cookstown High School
Combined Grammar & Secondary School

9 September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Lateral Flow Testing for Y8-Y14 pupils

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused disruption to every school in NI over the past year. A programme of rapid testing for COVID-19 is now being offered to all staff and pupils in post-primary schools. The test is carried out using a Lateral Flow Device (LFD).

All staff and all pupils will be offered testing. Testing kits will be provided free of charge and tests will be carried out at home before coming to school. **These will be conducted on a Sunday and Wednesday evening each week.** Testing is not compulsory but by taking part in the programme everyone can help control the spread of the virus and hopefully get life back to normal as quickly as possible. You can see more information on how this testing works by visiting this link (Please copy the link into Google Chrome) - <https://sway.office.com/whz8dJ46JpeKLcIV?ref=Link>

Taking part in testing is voluntary. There is no expectation or obligation to participate. Nobody should be required to undergo testing without consent, and nobody should be excluded from school if they do not wish to test.

Pupils who have signed up to the Lateral Flow Testing programme in the last term, should not complete this form, your child is still part of the Lateral Flow Testing Programme.

A pupil aged 16 or above and who is considered capable of giving their own consent can complete the consent form on their own behalf.

Parents/legal guardians of pupils over the age of 16 and not considered capable of giving their own consent should complete the consent form on behalf of the pupil.

Please click on the link (or copy it into your browser) to access the online **Microsoft Consent Form**; <https://forms.office.com/r/3pTtt0sP2N>. **Please complete it by 4.00pm on Wednesday 22 September.**

You can also access a video created by the school with regard to Lateral Flow Testing using the following link; <https://www.cookstownhighschool.org/news-531/news/process-for-lateral-flow/>



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To enable us to comply with our obligations under the General Data Protection Regulation, we are required to obtain express consent for the use of your/your child's personal information for participation in the Northern Ireland Schools Lateral Flow Covid 19 Testing programme. Without your consent we will not include you in this programme and will not issue you with Lateral Flow Testing kits.

If the test results is positive

You and your household must self-isolate and do not go into school. You may have COVID-19 and you or your parent/carer must book a PCR test at the local testing centre to confirm the result. **Please contact the school office**; regarding your LFD result. As soon as you find out the result of your PCR test, it is advisable that you also let school know.

If the test results is negative

Go into school as normal unless you are identified, as being a close contact of another student who has tested positive. If you are identified as a close contact, you will be asked to self-isolate until you return a negative PCR result.

It is important that all test results are recorded by calling 119 or using the following link: www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result

Should parents/ carers have any queries, please contact Mr McGeown, using the following email address; amcgeown200@c2ken.net, we will endeavor to resolve any issues in a timely manner.

Yours sincerely

Miss G J Evans
Principal