

## **All Hallows Catholic College**

A Voluntary Academy | National Teaching School

Aspire not to have more but to be more

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incipal - Mr T Beesley

2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021

Dear Parent or Carer,

## RE: COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) - UPDATED INFORMATION AND ADVICE FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

I hope you are well. Further to my letter dated 26<sup>th</sup> February, the deadline for consent for asymptomatic testing has now passed, and I am pleased to say that we have had a very high response from parents and carers wanting their child to participate in the Lateral Flow Testing (LFT) programme. I have prepared a Loom presentation about the phased return to College and the testing schedule, which is on the website and can be accessed <a href="here">here</a>. The presentation includes a short video of two of our students being tested in College, which should help other students prepare themselves for their own test, and hopefully alleviate any concerns or anxieties they may have.

A couple of parents have been in touch to ask about arrangements for those students who are not being tested. I will write again, later in the week, with final arrangements about the full opening of College, but those students who do not have consent for testing should come to College on the designated day for the return of their Year group, and go to registration and lessons as normal. We have also been asked about those students who have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days, and whether they should take part in the LFT programme or not. The latest advice from the DfE is that testing is still recommended, but it is the parent or carer's decision, as the child or young person, along with the rest of their household, would need to self-isolate if the LFT came back positive.

I would like to bring your attention to another change in the guidance, which concerns a positive LFT in College. When the consent form was first published, the instruction from the DfE was that any student who tested positive in College would be given a PCR test, to complete at home. This has now changed, and any student who was to test positive with an LFT should self-isolate, as per Government guidance.

We will provide more information about home-testing before a student's third test in College, but the latest advice is that if any student receives a positive LFT result <u>at home</u>, they should self-isolate and arrange for a confirmatory PCR test. The current guidance is that a positive LFT result <u>in College</u> also requires self-isolation but does not need a confirmatory PCR test.

With regard to the first round of testing, on Wednesday, Thursday & Friday of this week, could I please ask you to remind your child about the importance of not socialising with other students, on their way to College or going home. We have allocated slots for different Year groups, and alphabetically by surname, to avoid





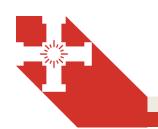












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large numbers of students arriving at College at any given time, and students should return home immediately, once they have had their test. There will be no live lessons, for a particular Year Group, on the day that they are due in College for their first test. Work will be set on Show My Homework, that will need to be completed. If you have any questions about testing, please do not hesitate to contact our Medical Needs Co-ordinator, Mrs Thea Quayle, at t.quayle@allhallows.org.uk.

May I also ask you to read the following letter from the Local Authority that we have been asked to distribute:

## Cheshire East Letter for Parents & Carers

Once again, thank you for your continued support and I look forward to seeing lots of our students, for their tests, later this week.

**God Bless** 

Tim Beesley













