



# City of Armagh High School

**Principal:**  
**Mr. C Douglas, BEng, PGCE, MEd**

**Vice Principal:**  
**Mrs. K P Mulholland, BSc (Hons), PGCE, PQH(NI)**

8<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parent / Carer,

## **Re: Asymptomatic testing in schools**

As a further mitigation in response to COVID-19, schools are required to facilitate asymptomatic (no physical symptoms) self-testing of pupils in years 8 to 14.

Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing is available to all year groups.

**All testing will be voluntary. Attached to this letter is a consent form that should be completed, informing the school whether consent is granted or otherwise. Without consent we will not be able to issue test kits. All completed consent forms should be returned to the relevant form tutor by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021.** There is a link within the form that provides you with detailed information on LFD testing, this is also available on our website.

Parents are informed that pupils will be afforded an information session this week in school.

## **When to test?**

As a school we are designating the two evenings for testing as **Sunday** and **Wednesday**. Tests should be taken each Sunday and Wednesday evening at home and parents are required to inform the school **only** of a positive result. This should be via telephone call on a Monday or Thursday morning. **Please note that pupils should not eat thirty minutes before taking the test.**

## Should a LFD report a positive result:

- An individual **may** have COVID-19
- The pupil must isolate immediately and book a Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test via a testing centre
- You should inform the school by telephone without delay.
- The remaining household should self-isolate pending the result of the PCR test.

If the PCR test result is positive:

- Parent / carer must again inform the school as we will need to undertake contact tracing with the support of PHA.

If the PCR test is negative:

- The pupil and their family members are no longer required to isolate, again we request you inform the school without delay.

As a school we would stress the importance of communicating in a timely manner with us to ensure we can support both your son / daughter and the wider school community. All pupils who have consented will be issued with a LFD kit to take home with them and pupils should begin testing on the next Wednesday or Sunday evening (whichever is first) Going forward pupils should undertake a LFD test each Sunday and Wednesday evening. The school will replenish test kits as required.

Please do take some time to discuss this letter with your son / daughter and assure them that we as a school are here to support in the coming weeks. As a parent, your ongoing support in such challenging circumstances is greatly appreciated.

All supporting information is available electronically at <https://www.cityofarmagh.org/online-learning/lfd-testing/>

**Parents / carers should not send their child(ren) to school if they or any member of their household display any symptoms of COVID-19 (see attached). You should contact the school without delay to inform us accordingly and book a PCR test.**

Yours sincerely,

Mrs K Mulholland

**Attached: Pupil consent form, PHA Flowchart for parents (only use for pupils in a school setting)**