



Holly Lodge High School College of Science Covid-19 General Information for Parents, Visitors and Staff September 2021

Details regarding the Government's guidance of Face Coverings in school

FACE COVERINGS IN SCHOOL

Under the national government's guidelines, it was declared that face coverings were no longer mandatory in schools in line with the easing of COVID-19 restrictions. However, schools were notified by Directors of Public Health they may decide to take additional steps to further reduce the risk of transmission where variants of concern have been identified. This would involve the temporary re-introduction of certain control measures, one being face coverings. Following Public Health guidance, a joint decision has been made to re-introduce face coverings for all pupils and staff at Holly Lodge with effect from Thursday, 16th September 2021. May I take this opportunity to thank you in advance for your co-operation.

Details regarding the Government's guidance of COVID-19 testing in school

MASS TESTING

Where will testing take place?

The testing site at Holly Lodge will be the F Block Old Sports Hall.

Who will carry out the testing? The school has appointed an external company and colleagues to oversee the testing.

What will students need to do?

Once school has received consent, students will self-swab this involves placing the swab down their throat and nose before it is passed to the testing team for processing. In September all students will be tested twice, with a two to three day gap in between.

1. Will Asymptomatic Testing still be in place one the mass testing has finished?

Yes, following the mass testing programme, students and staff will be provided with Lateral Flow tests to do at home twice a week. School is advising this be done on a Wednesday and a Sunday of each week. Government guidance states this will be reviewed at the end of September 2021. Updates will be made available via the website upon receipt of guidance updates.

What do I do if my child tests positive from the Lateral Flow Test?

If students do test positive, the school will expect parents to collect them from school as soon as possible. Students will remain isolated in a designated room until collected.

What happens if the test is negative?

Students can continue to attend school in the normal way. Testing does not remove the need for everyone to follow NHS guidance, control measures are as follows:

Details regarding the Government's guidance of COVID-19 Control Measures in school.

CONTROL MEASURES:-

- 2. Ensure good hygiene for everyone:-** all students to as frequently as possible thoroughly wash hands using soap and water or an alcohol based hand rub/sanitiser. These are readily available, sanitising stations are on all entry and exit routes. Also, in all classrooms.
- 3. Respiratory Hygiene:-** Using the Catch It, Bin It, Kill It procedure continues to be important and this message is reinforced by staff and signage around school. Free resources are available on the [E-Bug NHS website](#).
- 4. Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes:-** School has an enhanced cleaning schedule in place in all blocks.
- 5. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated:-** school ensures the building are all well ventilated to improve the fresh air flow. The government are supplying carbon monoxide monitors to all schools which will assist with careful monitoring of fresh air flow.

TEST RESULTS

What happens when a pupil tests positive for Covid-19 following a Lateral Flow or PCR Test:-

1. When a pupil tests positive for Covid (Lateral flow / PCR) and they have been in school in the previous 48 hours the pupils parent/carer and all staff in school will be notified
2. School will identify close pupil contacts through the pupil / staff and Class Charts seating plans
3. Anyone who is defined as a close contact will then need to have a PCR test

What happens when a member of staff tests positive for Covid-19 following a Lateral Flow or PCR Test:-

1. Staff who meet the close contact criteria for 1 or more of these students and are **double jabbed** should arrange to have a PCR test. As per the students, this should be arranged so as not to create cover.
2. Staff who feel that they meet the close contact criteria for 1 or more of these students **and are not double jabbed** should may need to self-isolate following advice.

What defines a close contact:-

1. Anyone who lives in the same household as another person who has COVID-19 symptoms or has tested positive for COVID-19
2. Anyone who has had any of the following types of contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19:
3. Face-to-face contact including being coughed on or having a face-to-face conversation within one metre
4. Been within one metre for one minute or longer without face-to-face contact
5. Been within 2 metres of someone for more than 15 minutes (either as a one-off contact, or added up together over one day)
6. If you are **double jabbed or under the age of 18 years and 6 months** you will **not need to self-isolate** at any time unless your PCR test is positive.
7. If you are single jabbed or have had no vaccination then you will need to do 10 days isolation even if your PCR result is negative.

8. If you do not wish to disclose your vaccination status to school and have been identified as a close contact you will need to seek advice from Public Health.