



THE WELLS ACADEMY

Be Kind. Work Hard. Achieve Greatness

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24th February 2021

Dear Parent / Carer,

Re: Testing of students prior to return to school

You will be aware of the recent government announcement that secondary schools will restart face to face education for all students from Monday 8th March. We are delighted by this announcement and are already developing our plans for restart which I will share with parents in the coming days.

Please be assured that our plans will be cautious and will place the safety of our students, school community and their parents at the forefront of our decision making.

Throughout this most recent period of national lockdown, The Wells Academy has been working hard to establish an on-site testing facility. **With this provision in place we are well placed to offer all secondary aged students three Lateral Flow Tests as part of the Governments mass testing programme.** The lateral flow tests are quick and easy using a swab of your nose and throat. Results take around half an hour from testing and will be shared directly with staff and students participating. Where participants are under-16, parents or legal guardians will also be informed of the test result.

Along with the other protective measures we are taking, these tests can help staff and students remain in school safely. Up to one third of people who have coronavirus experience no symptoms. By testing we will help to stop the virus spread and help to return to school as safely as possible. **Testing is voluntary.**

How do I give consent for voluntary testing?

I enclose an instructional leaflet with some more information (below) as well as a link to our online consent form [HERE](#)

If you are happy for your child to be tested, please complete the consent form **by Friday 26th February at 4.00pm**. If your child is over 16 years of age and is happy to be tested, please ask them to complete and return the consent form, having discussed participation with yourselves if they are under 18. **Please note that you are consenting to all three tests.**

Appointments for the first test will be sent to parents via email/text or a call on Monday 1st March. Students will be given a 15 minute testing window within which they must attend the academy and complete their lateral flow test. Students must return directly home after this first appointment.



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When will voluntary testing take place?

The academy will provide students who wish to take part in the voluntary testing **three** lateral flow tests. These tests will be administered by the student, under supervision at The Wells Academy. **The tests will be completed separately within three testing windows:**

Testing Window One	Students will be invited to undertake the first lateral flow test between Wednesday 3 rd March and Monday 8 th March. Each year group will be allocated a day for the testing to take place. When students have completed the test they will return home.
Testing Window Two	Students will be required to complete their second lateral flow test immediately upon return to school.
Testing Window Three	Students will be required to complete their third lateral flow test during their second full week of school.

What if your child tests positive?

Students who test positive will need to take a further 'PCR test' (similar to those done in local and regional testing sites) on the same day (or as soon as possible). You can go to www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or can call 119 to book a follow-up test.

During the time while they wait for the PCR result (via text/email), the students will need to self-isolate.

If the PCR test confirms a positive result you will have to self-isolate and follow the guidance from NHS Test and Trace.

I hope that the information in this letter is helpful and clear. If you have any questions, please do also email these to adminr@thewellsacademy.org

You can find further information which explains how your or your child's data will be used to process the test and the Privacy Notice, (both supplied by the DfE) on Greenwood Academies Trust website www.greenwoodacademies.org then click on the tab for COVID-19 testing or by following the links below:

[Data Protection FAQs](#)

[GAT Privacy Notice](#)

[Privacy Notice for contact details](#)

In the meantime, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support and I look forward to sharing our restart plan with you in the coming days.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Shepherd
Proud to be Principal of The Wells Academy



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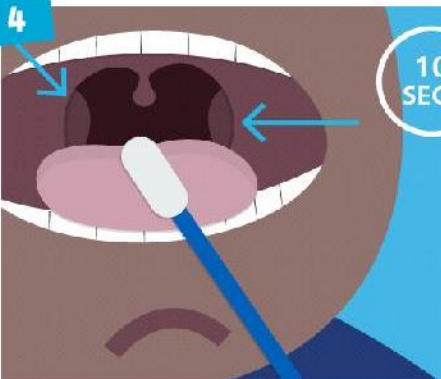
HOW TO DO YOUR TEST

WHILE THIS IS A SELF-SWAB TEST, THERE WILL BE A TESTING HELPER WHO WILL OVERSEE THINGS AND PROVIDE HELP IF YOU NEED

1  YOUR COVID-19 TEST WILL BE SCHEDULED. IF YOU ARE UNDER 16, YOUR PARENT / CARER WILL HAVE CONSENTED

2  YOUR TEST WILL BE FAST AND WHILE IT MIGHT FEEL A LITTLE UNCOMFORTABLE, IT WON'T HURT YOU

3  BLOW YOUR NOSE IF NEEDED. WASH AND DRY/SANITISE YOUR HANDS. REMOVE THE SWAB BEING CAREFUL NOT TO TOUCH THE SOFT PART

4  OPEN YOUR MOUTH WIDE AND USE A MIRROR TO LOOK AT THE BACK OF YOUR THROAT, THEN USE THE SWAB TO RUB FIRMLY 4 TIMES ON EACH SIDE