



26th July 2021

NHS Test and Trace: Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing of secondary students on return to school in September

Dear Parent/Carer,

You may have heard that testing for those without coronavirus symptoms will be recommencing across the country using 'lateral flow devices' (LFD) when students return to school in September. This letter is to help give you more information about the testing programme in our school commencing Wednesday 1st September 2021.

Asymptomatic testing is done via simple and quick tests, known as Lateral Flow Device (LFD) tests. They enable us to rapidly test pupils, students and staff, without the need for a laboratory. No test is 100% accurate, but the LFD, when done as part of a testing regime, is very good at picking up those with high viral loads (i.e. those that are the most contagious). This testing helps to identify positive cases more quickly and break the chains of transmission.

Once students whose parents/carers have given consent have been tested 2 times at school, they will be provided with home test kits for regular testing. I am therefore strongly encouraging students returning to school to be tested.

Plan for September testing in school

Testing has been planned for all students week commencing Wednesday 1st September. The phasing of the LFD tests:

	LFD Test 1 Date (test at school and return home)	LFD Test 2 Date (test during school time)
Year 7	Wed 1st Sep	Mon 6th Sep
Year 8	Thur 2nd Sep	Tues 7th Sep
Year 9	Fri 3rd Sep	Wed 8th Sep
Year 10 S, T	Thur 2nd Sep	Tues 7th Sep
Year 10 U, V, W, X, Y, Z	Fri 3rd Sep	Wed 8th Sep
Year 11 S, T, U, V, W	Wed 1st Sep	Mon 6th Sep (test at school and return home)
Year 11 X, Y, Z	Thur 2nd Sep	Tues 7th Sep

West Street
Odiham
Hampshire
RG29 1NA

t (01256) 702700
f (01256) 703012
e info@rmays.com
www.rmays.hants.sch.uk

Robert May's School is a company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales with company number 7875747. The registered office is Robert May's School, West Street, Odiham, Hook, Hampshire RG29 1NA.
VAT Reg Number: 141579017

Please note the first LFD test (and the second test for 11S, 11T, 11U, 11V, 11W) requires parents to book an appointment (see below) and will require you to transport your child to and from school for this test. The second LFD test for Years 7 to 10 and 11X, 11Y, 11Z will take place during the school day as specified in the above schedule.

Should your child return a positive LFD result, your child will be required to self isolate at home in line with the stay at home guidance. Your child will also need to get a free PCR test to check if they have COVID19. Whilst awaiting the PCR result, they will continue to self-isolate. If the PCR test is taken within 2 days of the positive lateral flow test, and is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD test and the pupil can return to school, as long as the individual doesn't have COVID-19 symptoms.

Students will be handed their home test kits following their second LFD test. Information about the tests can be found on the school website including FAQs for Parents/Carers regarding how any data is used.

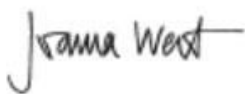
The first test for your child needs to be booked using our online booking system. Information on how to book, including a link to the booking system, and our terms of consent can be found via 'COVID Information and Testing' page on our website, [here](#).

Students who are unable to participate in the school LFD testing will start the Autumn term at the same time as the rest of their year group and follow their normal timetable and classrooms.

Finally, where parents of new Year 7 and Year 8 students have provided consent to the use of biometric data (sought during the admissions process) biometric information will also be taken immediately after their LFD test. This is in readiness for biometric identification being used in the canteen and library when the school is ready.

Please contact us if you have any questions on info@rmays.com.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joanna West". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line at the end.

Joanna C West
Headteacher