



Committed to excellence
MBA

Headteacher: Marion Budd, MA (Hons), MA (Ed),

25th February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Giving permission for your child to participate in coronavirus testing at Northolt High School

I'm so pleased to be writing to you today to provide you with information about our plans for the return to onsite education for our students.

As you will probably have seen in the news, we have been asked to offer testing to all students before they return. We believe this is a very good way to keep our school community as safe as possible and would very much like all students to take part in testing.

The test is a Lateral Flow Device (LFD) test. Students will use a swab (like a long cotton bud) to swab either their throat and nose or just their nose if they find it easier. The test will then be processed here in school and we will have a result in around 30 minutes. We have had our test centre up and running since January and have tested many of the staff and students currently on site. Students have found it easier than thought and we are confident most students will be able to swab themselves without any problems.

We plan to make arrangements for students to be tested before they come back into school for lessons and will be sending out appointments for testing. Before we can send out appointments, we need you to give us permission for your child to participate in this testing as we will only be able to test students where consent has been given.

For students who are being tested, the first appointment will be issued before the student's year group returns to school. If your child has a positive test result, we will let you know straight away and both they and everyone in the household will be required to isolate for at least ten days. If students test negative they will be ready to return to school. By identifying students who may be infectious we will be able to prevent the further spread of Covid-19 in our school community and keep everyone as safe as possible.

If you would like to see how our test centre operates please see the short presentation [here](#).

Testing is voluntary but to keep our community as safe as possible we would very much like all of our students to be tested.

Please complete [this short form](#) to tell us if you give consent for your child to be tested. Please complete this **by 9am on Monday 1st March.**

After their initial test before they return to school, students participating in the testing programme will then do two further tests. We know some parents are worried about students returning to school and these tests will provide reassurance for you. After the three school tests are complete we are expecting home test kits to be delivered and your child will be able to be tested at home twice a week. This means you will be able to regularly test your child at home. Our testing programme will begin on Thursday 4th March.

I will write to you again on Monday 1st March once we have planned the testing arrangements in more detail as we will then be able to confirm which days each year group will be returning to school from Monday 8th March. We are hoping to be able to bring all students back into school by Thursday 11th March.

If you have any questions about testing, please email help@northolthigh.org.uk.

As ever, thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marion Budd', with a horizontal line underneath.

Marion Budd
Headteacher