



Cardinal Langley RC High School

'An Outstanding Catholic School' S48, March 2017

Rochdale Road, Middleton, Manchester, M24 2GL
T: 0161 643 4009 | E: admin@clrchs.co.uk | W: www.clrchs.co.uk
Headteacher: Mr A Bridson B.Sc. (Hons), MA (Education), NPQEL

Wednesday 1st December 2021

Dear Student / Parent / Carer

Thank you for your participation in the twice weekly lateral flow device (LFD) testing. In order to continue to protect our staff, students and their families, the school is taking part in an NHS programme to make PCR tests available in addition to the LFD kits. This will give reassurance that infection is not present as we approach the Christmas period with increased family mixing. We are distributing these in early December so that if any positive cases are identified, individuals can complete their isolation period in advance of Christmas.

Up to 30-50% of people who have Covid-19 virus may have no or very mild symptoms, but they could still spread the disease to others. Regular twice weekly testing and reporting, along with other preventive measures, helps limit the transmission of Covid-19. This helps keep our schools open and our community safe.

Quality Assurance is an important part of the testing programme. It helps the NHS Test & Trace ensure that test kits are effective and that tests are being conducted correctly. One of the ways the quality assurance is undertaken is by doing a 'dual test'. This means that, along with one LFD test, participants are asked to do one PCR test. Comparison of the results helps NHS Test & Trace to ensure the quality of LFD testing. Our school has been invited to participate in this dual testing programme and PCR kits will be available for anyone aged 12 and above.

What does Dual Testing involve?

Students should be completing twice weekly rapid tests at home and will also be provided with one PCR kit to use at the same time as one of these tests. The PCR test kits will be distributed from Monday 6th December and LFD kits can be collected from Student Services at school or from local pharmacies.

All students are being asked to do is take one additional PRC test swab when they do their next rapid (LFD) test, and then complete a quick and simple online form. Further details can be found on the attached Participant Information Sheet or the leaflet distributed with the PCR kits. **Please note, as with current LFD testing processes, the PCR test is carried out at home and not at school.**

I would like to stress that whilst we encourage all everyone to participate in the dual testing, doing so is optional but is one of the ways you can protect your family and the school community as we approach the Christmas period.

Should you have any further questions, please contact the school via email at admin@clrchs.co.uk

Yours faithfully

Mr A Bridson
Headteacher





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Why do we need dual testing?

Quality assurance helps us monitor the following:

- Test kits and supplies provided are safe and effective
- Tests are conducted in a safe and correct manner
- Results of the testing are reported, and acted upon for positive cases
- Testing is accessible and acceptable to students and staff in schools
- There is sufficient uptake of testing to help reduce transmission of Covid-19 through asymptomatic spread

Quality assurance will be ongoing and is an essential part of NHS Test and Trace in schools.

What does this mean for me?

- This programme will focus on home self-tests and is optional
- Those who participate in the Quality Assurance will be provided a single use PCR kit, in addition to their LFD kits to take home
- You will be asked to dual test using both tests – the PCR swab will also act as a confirmatory PCR test if the LFD result is positive
- The PCR and LFD test must be linked together via a web page which takes less than 5 minutes to complete. Instructions on how to do this can be found in the Participant Information Sheet which will be supplied by the school/college.
- The LFD and PCR results will be processed allowing NHS Test & Trace to understand the performance between the two tests.
- The PCR test also acts a confirmatory PCR test if the LFD result is positive – further registration will be required, and instructions will be in the Participant Information Sheet & Addendum.

What will be supplied in addition to the LFD tests?

- 1 x PCR kit bag (Grey bag containing instructions on how to complete the PCR swab including a pre-paid Royal Mail flatpack box)
- 1 x Participant Information Sheet
- All testing is on a voluntary basis. individuals can opt out of dual testing and still attend school unless:
 - They are symptomatic (they will need to perform a PCR test and if found to be positive, please inform the school as soon as possible and continue self-isolating in line with the national guidance.)
 - Someone they live with tests positive (or has symptoms and has not been tested yet) or
 - They've been traced as a contact or someone who tested positive.

