

YSGOL RHIWABON

~ SINCE 1575 ~



10th March 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

Asymptomatic testing for Year 10 students

As students begin their flexible return to Ysgol Rhiwabon from 15th March we are working hard to keep school as safe as possible. As part of this safe return, secondary schools across Wales have received delivery of rapid tests known as 'Lateral Flow Tests (LFT)' for all Year 10 and 11 students. Staff are also included in this opportunity to test regularly.

Alongside our Whole School Risk Assessment and Operational Guidelines, regular Lateral Flow Tests will help staff and students remain safely in school. Up to one third of people who have Coronavirus experience no symptoms. By testing we will help to limit the spread of the virus and help to keep our school open as safely as possible. This test is voluntary, but I would encourage everyone to participate.

An instructional leaflet supports the testing at home, providing valuable information about how to take the test safely and how to report the result. A copy of this is available on our website and will be issued upon collection of the kits. The Lateral Flow Tests are quick and easy to use.

Collection of Test Kits

We are in a fortunate position to be able to start testing before students return. This is the ideal situation as students testing before their return will reduce the risk of any asymptomatic students in school. This would reduce transmission and the likelihood of students having to isolate and miss teaching and learning in school.

To ensure that students participating in Lateral Flow Testing have the opportunity to test at home before returning to school, kits can be collected from school on Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th March as outlined below;

<u>Monday 15th March 2021</u>	<u>Tuesday 16th March 2021</u>
10JE – 10am – 12pm	10LMJ – 10pm – 12pm
10EMT – 12pm – 2pm	10JT – 12pm – 2pm

Please contact the school if you need to collect your child's kit at an alternative time and we will aim to help.

What to do on collection;

- Arrive at reception and sanitise hands in the outer waiting area.
- Please ensure you are wearing a face covering.
- Sign the consent form and collect the instruction booklet and kit.

The tests should be taken on a **Sunday** and **Wednesday** morning before breakfast.

Reporting your result

You must report your child's result of **every** test taken whatever the result to the NHS using www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result

What if your child tests positive? (see Page 16 of the information leaflet)

A positive result from the LFT means your child will need a Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) Test which can be booked online by calling **119**.

Your child and anyone in your immediate family/support bubble **must** isolate in accordance with current national and local guidance, which can be found at www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment

In the case of a positive result, please contact the school to inform us as soon as possible.

A Negative Result

A negative result means that your child continues to attend school as normal.

It is important that your child continues to follow school, local and national guidelines including regular handwashing, social distancing and wearing face coverings where required.

What if my Child develops symptoms?

The Lateral Flow Test is **not** to be used if your child displays symptoms at any time (such as high temperature, a new continuous cough or a loss or change to sense of smell or taste). In this case they must self-isolate immediately and book a PCR test by calling 119.

Consent / Privacy

All individuals wishing to take part should familiarise themselves with the testing process and privacy notice published on our website; if you choose to participate, you are committing to self-administer the test and provide results for all tests (negative or positive). With our primary protective measures and testing, we will help to reduce the spread of the virus. I am therefore strongly encouraging all staff to take the tests. However, anyone who chooses not to participate should still attend school if they are not displaying symptoms. People who decline to participate in this testing programme should follow the usual local and national guidelines on self-isolation and anyone should get tested if they show symptoms.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Ferron-Evans
Headteacher