



# Dashwood Banbury Academy

an Aspirations Academy

Growing together; succeeding together

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## Update for pupils attending school during the National Lockdown

Dear parents/carers,

I am writing to update you on some excellent news. Staff in primary settings will have access to home testing kits known as Lateral Flow Tests (LFT) from Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021. These tests have been widely and successfully used to detect COVID-19 in **asymptomatic** individuals and we are very grateful to be given the opportunity to use them. Public Health England recommend staff take two tests a week 3 to 4 days apart, to enhance detection by picking up any cases which were not detected during the first test and to catch any new infections. Whilst there is currently no confirmed plans to test primary or nursery aged pupils, testing staff will help to reduce the spread of the virus.

### What do you need to know?

- Staff will take tests at home and have received all the information and details they need. **There will be no testing taking place on the school site.**
- **Pupils** in primary schools/nurseries will **not be tested** and **cannot** be offered a lateral flow test at this stage.
- If a test comes back **positive**, the staff member will be asked to go for a test (called a PCR test) at a test centre like they would if they had symptoms. At this stage, any **contacts** they have had with other staff or pupils would be asked to **self-isolate** whilst we await the results of the PCR test. Depending on these results, the isolation period will either be extended or ended.
- **Staff and pupils who show symptoms** of Covid-19, should continue to **book a PCR test** as usual immediately calling 119 or going to <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> and their whole household should isolate until the results come back. (This is the same procedure as before).
- If any bubble is asked to isolate, the pupils will be able to **continue** their **education remotely** as they will be set the same work as everyone else who is working from home.

If you have any questions or queries, please feel free to contact me or the office. This is great news though and hearing so many of you have started to be offered the vaccine really brings hope. Thank you for your continued support as always.

Take care and stay safe.

Yours faithfully,

*AERogers*

Mrs Amy Rogers

Principal

