



# Haydock High School

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20<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly can I thank you for all of the efforts you have made towards helping to keep students in the school safe during the past few months, despite the serious and ongoing challenges the covid-19 pandemic has presented for all of us

During the last few days, unfortunately we have had a number of positive Covid-19 tests confirmed at the school. As a result of this we have had a meeting with Public Health and Local Authority representatives so we can discuss measures to stop the spread of the virus. This is temporary until the number of cases in the school reduce, this but could take a few weeks.

To help limit the possibility of further cases developing we will be introducing some temporary extra safety measures in the school during the next two weeks. including:

- Regular testing for students on site at the school.
- Staff will wear face coverings in all communal areas in the school
- Children will continue with staggered breaks and lunches
- Enhanced cleaning within the school of all contact and touch points in the school
- Visitors to site will be restricted and will wear a face covering
- Students encouraged to wear face coverings at all times.

With the positive cases that have been identified in the school so far, it has become evident that the virus may often be transmitting without students showing any outward signs of having an infection, so it is for this reason that we are asking for your support during this time.

Our priority is to ensure that students continue to have the opportunity to learn in the classroom environment and we feel that with your support, via regular home testing and taking the precautions we have outlined, we can all work together to achieve this.

If your child does test positive after a symptom free lateral flow test, you should not send your child into school. You should also look to book a PCR test for your child to confirm the result. When booking online please state you have been advised by your local council to book the test.

If you suspect your child or anyone else in the household might have Covid-19 and are displaying any of the symptoms below, no matter how mild they are, you **MUST** book a PCR test to check if they are positive. You must isolate until you get the test result. You should not rely on rapid lateral flow tests in this instance as they are designed to be used on those without symptoms.

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)

- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or three or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

You can book a PCR test online at [www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus), or by calling 119.

We would also urge both yourself and other close contacts in your family to continue to test twice a week with symptom free lateral flow tests even if your child does not show any symptoms of Covid-19. Twice weekly rapid LFT testing is important as it is possible for students to have no outward signs of infection themselves yet be capable of passing the virus onto other children, both within their own class and others in the school. Rapid testing helps to identify cases quickly and therefore prevent spread within the school and disruption to education.

If you wish to speak to staff please telephone or email and we will get back to you.

Thank you again for your efforts and helping to keep all our children safe and the school open.

Yours sincerely,



Mr P Abram  
Principal