

26th August 2021
15:00

Dear Year 7 Families,

Re: Information on Lateral Flow Testing (LFT) for students at Burton Borough School

Following on from Mr Morgan's (Acting Principal) letter today, please see below for information about the Lateral Flow Tests used at Burton Borough School and how these will be administered before giving consent for your child. The link to the survey can be found at the end of this letter.

What is a Lateral Flow Test?

A lateral flow test is a rapid COVID-19 test where results are provided in 30 minutes. These are different to the Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) tests that you would have if you develop COVID-19 symptoms and go to a testing centre as these tests are sent to a laboratory which takes a longer period of time to give a result.

Results are shown in a way similar to a pregnancy test – one line means the result is negative and two lines means it is positive.

Which type of Lateral Flow Test would my child be using?

The LFTs that Burton Borough School has been provided with are the Innova SARS-CoV-2 Antigen Rapid Qualitative Test.

Once these lateral flow devices have all been used, the new devices will be either the Orient Gene or Acon-Flowflex devices.

How will the tests be administered?

All students will be expected to carry out the tests on themselves, unless there is a particular reason e.g. a special educational need, where they would be unable to. Members of BBS staff who have been trained will monitor the process to ensure students are carrying out the tests according to the government guidelines.

What will my child have to do?

When your child arrives at the main hall for their test, they will firstly need to register the barcode that they will be given. If your child has a mobile device, this would be very helpful and save time. For students who do not have a device, a member of staff will help register them on a laptop.

Innova Tests: Your child will have a swab to rub on their tonsils for 10 seconds (five seconds each side). The swab will then need to be carefully removed without touching the tongue or roof of the mouth and entered into each nostril and turned 5 times. The swab will then be placed in a tube of liquid by a member of staff and the liquid will be dropped onto the lateral flow device. Your child will sit in a separate area of the main hall to wait for their test result.

Orient Gene or Acon-Flowflex Tests: The swab will only need to be entered into each nostril and turned 5 times. The swab will then be placed in a tube of liquid by a member of staff and the liquid will be dropped onto the lateral flow device. Your child will sit in a separate area of the main hall to wait for their test result.

Who will the adults be who will monitor and process the tests?

All of the adults will be members of the Burton Borough community. These include all members of the catering team, some pastoral team members, members of staff from the SEND department, some of the admin team and some of the senior leadership team. No teaching staff will be used so that they



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can focus on teaching classes. We will also have parent volunteers who are medically trained who we used during the first lateral flow testing period we carried out at school.

What training have staff had?

Depending on their mass testing responsibility, staff have completed the relevant online training (8 modules altogether) for their role. This included reading information, watching videos and completing several multiple-choice tests.

How long will my child be out of lessons for if I choose to let them have the lateral flow test?

The whole process from your child leaving their classroom, getting to the main hall, registering their barcode, administering the test, waiting for the result (30 mins), and returning to class will take approximately one hour. This may be at the start of a lesson so that they will have to catch up on the work missed in their own time or it may be across two separate lessons – again, they will need to catch up on the work in their own time. Your child's LFT appointment may also go into break or lunch time. If this is the case, your child will be allowed to eat their packed lunch after they have carried out the test and waiting for their results. This is incredibly important as tests cannot be carried out within 30 minutes of eating.

The one-hour time slot is just a guideline on how long we believe the testing will take following a run-through. This time may be lengthened for example if there are issues with the registration process (as we found happened during the run through with the website) or if there is a need to clean any messes that may occur if a child who is testing before your child feels unwell from the test. It may also be shorter than an hour if everything runs smoothly.

Why can't my child take the test home so that no learning time is lost?

It is the government's intention that the first two tests will be carried out in school and subsequent tests will be carried out at home twice a week.

Will my child be able to attend school if I do not give them consent to have the lateral flow testing?

Yes. Your child will be able to attend school.

What does my child need to bring when they attend their appointment for their lateral flow test?

- Personal device such as a mobile phone if they have one to register the barcode
- Details used to register their lateral flow test account prior to the 6th September 2021 (please see attached guid on how to register):
 1. Full address and postcode
 2. NHS number if you have this
 3. Email address and password used to register the account

Once you have read all of the information above, please complete the Year 7 Lateral Flow Test Survey which can be found here by Thursday 2nd September 2021 :

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/PSF853S>

We hope that you found this information useful and we look forward to seeing your children on Monday 6th September!

Yours sincerely,

Burton Borough School

