



# Colton Hills Community School

**Confidence. Happiness. Courage. Success.**

Headteacher  
Mrs A Stephens

**Colton Hills  
Community School**  
Jeremy Road  
Wolverhampton  
West Midlands  
WV4 5DG  
**01902 558420**

15<sup>th</sup> January 2021

## **NHS Test and Trace: COVID-19 testing for students**

Dear Parent or guardian,

We are working to keep our school as safe as possible. You may have heard that testing for those without coronavirus symptoms is beginning across the country using new, quicker COVID-19 tests known as 'lateral flow tests'.

Along with the other protective measures we are taking, these tests will help staff and students to remain in school safely. Up to one third of people who have coronavirus experience no symptoms. By testing we will help to stop the virus spread and help to keep our school open as safely as possible. The test is voluntary, but **I would encourage everyone to take it.**

We will be testing all staff and secondary school students who want to participate from week commencing 18th January 2021. You can see more [information here](#).

### **How the tests will work**

Students taking the test will be supervised by trained staff. The 'lateral flow' tests are quick and easy using a swab of your nose and throat. Results (which take around half an hour from testing) will be shared with the parent/legal guardian from the NHS via the mobile number given at consent.

We are confident that these tests will have an impact in catching more cases within school, and that there is good scientific evidence that they are broadly as accurate as PCR tests in catching positive cases. The tests do have a lower sensitivity, but can be better at picking up cases when a person has a higher viral load, which is why we will be testing staff and students regularly. It is important to note that a negative test does not completely rule out a positive case, but we believe that catching as many cases as possible will only benefit our school, whilst continuing to encourage hygiene and social distancing measures at all times.

Testing will be offered free of charge.

### **Next steps**

We strongly encourage every student to take part in this testing program. In order to conduct these tests please complete a [consent and registration form](#). Note – you will need to complete a form for each child at the school.

The form is in two parts -

- **Consent** – this form gives your consent for your child to take part in testing.
- **Registration** – this is the information that we need to be able to register your child for the test.

**Please complete both parts of the form and submit it as soon as possible and by no later than lunchtime Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January.**

We will support our staff and pupils throughout, but please contact us if you need this information in any other language or format or if you have any questions. You can call the office on 01902 558420 or email our dedicated COVID address [covidinfo@coltonhills.co.uk](mailto:covidinfo@coltonhills.co.uk).

Yours faithfully, Mrs A Stephens



[coltonhillsschool@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:coltonhillsschool@wolverhampton.gov.uk)



[www.coltonhills.co.uk](http://www.coltonhills.co.uk)



[@coltonhillscs](https://twitter.com/coltonhillscs)