Johnstone High School 

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9th December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

**COVID-19 Lateral Flow Device Testing for Johnstone High School**

Thank you for all you do to help keep our school safe for everyone. A vitally important part of this is regular testing at home using Lateral Flow Device (LFD) tests. For that reason, I am asking you to support your child this winter to:

* **Test regularly (twice a week) at home**; and
* **Report all results, whether positive negative or void, at** [**www.covidtest.scot**](http://www.covidtest.scot) **or by calling 119.**

**Why does testing and reporting results matter?**

* Regular, twice-weekly testing at home can identify people at an early stage who have Covid with no symptoms. By asking them to self-isolate, we can reduce the risk of the virus being passed on and avoid more of our young people and staff missing school over the winter period.
* Reporting positives means your family will receive the advice and support you need. Reporting negative and void results helps public health experts to understand the full picture of COVID in our area, and to plan to protect communities and keep schools safe and open.

**What else do I need to know?**

* The online portal for reporting results has been improved following feedback – you can now register family accounts that save key information for all your family members, so it only takes a few minutes to report results using your phone.
* All our school pupils can access LFD test kits free of charge from our school. These are typically available twice a week outside of the hall, but during prelims these can be accessed from the school office reception.
* LFD tests are very good at identifying people who don’t have symptoms but who have a “high viral load”. Those are the people who are most infectious and likely to pass the virus onto others. All LFDs supplied by schools have passed rigorous safety tests.

**NB:** If your child receives a positive result from their LFD at home or has symptoms, they must report any LFD result online (or by calling 119), self-isolate and book a PCR test via NHS Inform at [www.nhsinform.scot](https://www.nhsinform.scot/illnesses-and-conditions/infections-and-poisoning/coronavirus-covid-19/test-and-protect/coronavirus-covid-19-get-a-test-if-you-have-symptoms). Everyone in the household should also self-isolate and follow the advice about next steps on NHS Inform.

**What else can we do to keep our school community safe?**

It is vitally important that your child wears a face covering when they are in school. (This does not apply to pupils with medical exemptions.) Please send your child to school with a cloth face covering each day and emphasise to your child they must wear this over their mouth and nose when in classes, in corridors and when travelling to and from school on contract or public buses.

Other health and safety measures in school include cleaning caddies to wipe down tables after every lesson, year group entry doors and hand sanitisation in the mornings, intervals and at lunchtime, and a one-way system in corridors.

**Please ensure your child adheres to all these important measures designed to limit the spread of Covid-19 and keep them and others safe.**

Thank you for taking the time to read this, and for contributing to the shared effort to test, report and keep our school community safe during the winter period.

Further information for parents is at: [www.parentclub.scot/articles/covid-19-testing-staff-and-pupils](http://www.parentclub.scot/articles/covid-19-testing-staff-and-pupils), and more general information on LFD testing can be found at [www.nhsinform.scot](http://www.nhsinform.scot). Frequently Asked Questions for young people, designed in partnership with Young Scot, can be found here: <https://young.scot/get-informed/national/coronavirus-covid-19-testing-for-young-people-at-school>.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the school,

Yours sincerely,



Lynne Hollywood

Head Teacher