



CONSETT  
ACADEMY

Our Ref KER/CMC

17 March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Lateral Flow Home testing**

Regular asymptomatic (no symptoms) COVID-19 testing has been in place at Consett Academy since January 2021 and we have now successfully concluded the three tests for all our students upon their return to full time education.

The Government recently announced that all secondary aged students will also be offered regular asymptomatic COVID-19 test kits to take at home so they can test themselves twice a week in the hope that it will reduce the spread of the virus.

Up to one in three people who have COVID-19 can spread the virus without knowing. This is because they have no symptoms. To reduce the spread of the virus, we need to identify those individuals. We can do this in Consett Academy by carrying out tests at home twice a week, three to five days apart.

All our students have been given instructions on how to conduct the test and report the results. For further information please visit our website at: <http://www.consett-academy.org.uk/about-us/covid-19-updates>

The Academy will provide students with home test kits from Thursday 18 March. Students will receive three packs, with threetests in each pack, a total of nine tests that they will need from Sunday 21 March to Sunday 18 April. The tests are free of charge. We would like the students to take their tests on Sunday and Wednesday evenings as follows:

Test 1: Sunday 21 March

Test 2: Wednesday 24 March

Test 3: Sunday 28 March

Test 4: Wednesday 31 March

Test 5: Sunday 4 April

Test 6: Wednesday 7 April

Test 7: Sunday 11 April

Return to school on Monday 12 April

Test 8: Wednesday 14 April

Test 9: Sunday 18 April

Ashdale Road  
Consett  
DH8 6LZ

T: 01207 507001

E: [enquiries@consettacademy.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@consettacademy.org.uk)

W: [www.consett-academy.org.uk](http://www.consett-academy.org.uk)

Cont/d

INCLUSION • PROGRESSION • EXCELLENCE

Part of New College Durham Academies Trust  
Executive Principal: Mr K Reynolds, MA

**Taking the test** - a leaflet on how to take the test and report the results to NHS Test & Trace will be in each pack. In addition, we will give students a leaflet with instructions on how to do the test with the kit. There is also a useful video to show you how to take the test [here](#).

**Reporting the result** - the result of each test needs to be reported using the NHS Test & Trace self-report website: <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result> and then directly to the [Academy](#).

[Help and support is available](#), including instructions in different languages on how to test and report the results and a video showing you how to take the test.

There is no need to keep used test equipment after the test result has been reported. You can put it in your normal bin (household waste).

This does not replace symptomatic testing. If you have symptoms, you should self-isolate immediately, book a PCR test and follow national guidelines.

If anyone tests **positive you, your household, any support bubbles you are part of** should self-isolate immediately in line with NHS Test and Trace guidance for 10 days.

You should [order a confirmatory PCR test](#) if you are testing at home (confirmatory PCR tests are not needed if the test was conducted at the Asymptomatic Test Site at Consett Academy).

If the result of the test is **unclear (void)** you should do another test.

**Negative and void results** should be reported to both [NHS Test & Trace](#) and the [Academy](#).

A negative result does not guarantee that you are not carrying the virus. So, you should continue to follow social distancing, and other measures to reduce transmission such as wearing a face mask and regularly washing your hands and observing social distancing.

If you or anyone in your household gets symptoms of the virus you should follow [national guidelines on self-isolation and testing](#).

I cannot stress too strongly the importance to continuing to test for Covid-19. Testing at home will allow your child and other students to attend Consett Academy more safely.

Please contact the Academy on 01207 507001 or email via [enquiries@consettacademy.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@consettacademy.org.uk), if you have any questions or concerns about home testing.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely



Kevin Reynolds  
Executive Principal