



Learning and Growing Together
in Faith and Friendship

St Joseph's Catholic Academy

Member of the Newman Catholic Collegiate

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Principal- Mrs L Hamilton

Friday 26th March 2021

Dear Parents

I am writing to remind you of the government guidance for Covid testing. There are two types of test which should be used in different circumstances and it is important that the correct test is used.

Testing guidance has been updated this week to state that lateral flow tests should not be used on primary school children.

Test type	PCR	Lateral Flow
Symptoms	<p><u>Essential for all children and adults with:</u> Continuous cough High Temperature Loss of taste or smell Lateral flow tests must not be used by someone with any of these symptoms</p>	<p>Not to be used on primary school age children Optional for secondary school children and adults with: No symptoms Secondary symptoms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headaches • Aches and pains • Feeling very tired for no good reason • Sore throat • Runny nose • Sneezing • Sometimes 'tummy ache' in children <p>Lateral flow testing for secondary symptoms is a local arrangement for Stoke on Trent because of our previous high cases Lateral flow tests must not be used for someone with a cough, high temperature or loss of taste or smell EVEN IF they also have the symptoms above</p>
Where	<p>PCR tests are available only at the following regional testing centres:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stoke City FC South Car Park- drive through (Bet 365) 	<p>Lateral flow tests are available at many community testing centres. You can find details of these at: https://www.stoke.gov.uk/bookacovid19test</p> <p>Lateral flow tests are also used at home by adults who are testing themselves regularly through their workplace or because they are</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fenton Manor Car Park- walk through, • Synectics Solutions Car Park- walk through (near to Port Vale Football Club) <p>You can also order PCR home tests. Please note it takes a little longer to get the results of a home test</p>	in a household/ bubble with a primary school age child.
Results	You will receive your results by text or email, usually the next day although this can take up to 3 days	If you did the test at a test site, you should get a text or email with your result within 2 hours although this is often within 30 minutes. If you did the test at home, you can see your result within 30 minutes.
Isolation	<p>The person with symptoms and everyone in their household must isolate until the test results are received.</p> <p>If the test is positive, follow the instructions provided about isolation.</p> <p>If the text is negative, everyone in the household can continue with their usual activities provided they do not have a high temperature, sickness or diarrhoea</p>	<p>The person with symptoms and their household are not required to isolate before the test result is received. However, it may be advisable for the person with symptoms to do so.</p> <p>If the test is positive, follow the instructions provided about isolation.</p> <p>If the test is negative, everyone in the household can continue with their usual activities provided they do not have a high temperature, sickness or diarrhoea</p>
Notifying school	You must advise us if your child is isolating because they or someone in their household has a cough, high temperature or loss of taste or smell Please advise us of the test result once received	N/A as lateral flow tests are not suitable for primary age children

