

To: Parents/Carers of Year 12 Students

Our ref: 87101058

21 June 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Dual Testing

As you will already know, the Department for Education has instructed all secondary schools and colleges to offer mass testing to all students and staff through the use of Lateral Flow Device Testing.

The aim of this is to make our education community safer and limit the transmission of Covid-19.

South Hunsley has been asked to undertake a Quality Assurance exercise to support NHS Test & Trace and I am writing to you to let you know what this involves.

Dual Testing Quality Assurance is due to run between 24 June and 02 July, after which we will revert to the current testing protocols.

What does Dual Testing involve?

We will invite all Year 12 students who already perform LFD tests at home to pick up a **single use PCR kit** from the sixth form desk or the LRC between 24 June and 28 June so that they can perform a PCR test alongside their usual LFD test at some point during the above QA window.

This is so NHS Test & Trace can compare results from these testing technologies or methods. Ongoing quality assurance is a key aspect of clinical oversight for the NHS Test and Trace testing programme and enables DHSC to verify that test kits are safe and effective, tests are conducted in a safe and correct manner and that the results are correctly reported and acted upon.

As with current LFD testing processes, the PCR test is carried out at home and not in school.

The PCR kit will include instructions on how to perform the PCR swab and instructions will be supplied to on how to return PCR swabs with PCR kits.

The information attached to this letter will explain the Quality Assurance exercise in more detail. Should you have any questions, please contact me on the school telephone number, in the first instance.

I would like to stress that whilst we encourage everyone to participate in the Quality Assurance exercise, no one will be forced to dual test, and I would like to make clear that doing so is optional. NHS Test & Trace have advised that you will not need to complete an additional consent form for this, the student collecting the test kit is assumed as consent. Therefore if anyone does not want to take part in this Quality Assurance exercise, they should simply not collect a PCR test kit.

I hope that the information attached will give you re-assurance that the tests are safe, reliable and will help keep COVID 19 transmissions to a minimum within the school and wider community.

Yours faithfully,



Tom Sergeant
Assistant Headteacher