



## Federation of Pinvin C of E First School and St Nicholas C of E Middle School

Main Street, Pinvin, Worcestershire WR10 2ER

**Federation Head teacher: Mrs Sandra Jennings**

*Together, we inspire, discover and achieve*

7<sup>th</sup> December 2021

### **COVID-19 testing for Staff and Pupils**

Dear Parent or Guardian,

We are working to keep our school as safe as possible. We will be required to carry out lateral flow tests on Year 7 students in the first two weeks of returning to school in January 2022.

Along with the other protective measures we are taking, these tests will help staff and pupils to remain in school/college 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 tests are voluntary, but I would encourage everyone to take it.

We will be testing all staff and secondary school age pupils who want to participate from Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022. **You may remember completing a consent form for the testing back in July ready for your child starting Year 7 in September. If gave your consent previously and now do not wish your child to participate in the testing at school please email [info@pinvinfed.co.uk](mailto:info@pinvinfed.co.uk) to let them know as soon as possible. Alternatively, if you previously did not give consent and now wish your child to participate please contact the office and a form will be sent out to you.**

Those 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. For under 18s, staff can oversee the swab process.

Results (which take around half an hour from testing) will be shared directly with staff and pupils participating.

We know these tests work - in validation studies conducted by Oxford University and Public Health England, they were shown to be as accurate in identifying a case as a PCR test (99.68% specificity). The tests have lower sensitivity but they are better at picking up cases when a person has higher viral load, hence the need to test frequently.

Testing will be offered free of charge.

#### **What if a pupil tests positive?**

Participating staff and pupils who test positive will be informed about their results individually. Where

**Tel: 01386 554196**  
**[office@pinvinfed.co.uk](mailto:office@pinvinfed.co.uk)**

**[www.pinvinfed.co.uk](http://www.pinvinfed.co.uk)**

The Pinvin Federation of Schools is part of The Diocese of Worcester Multi Academy Trust, which is a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales with registered number 10390487. Its registered office is at The Old Palace, Deansway, Worcester, Worcestershire, WR1 2JE.



participants are under 16, parents or legal guardians will also be notified. Guidance on safe travel and additional precautions will be provided along with test results, Staff and pupils will need to immediately begin isolation and take a PCR test. Parents please be aware that you would need to collect your child immediately if you are contacted with a positive result.

Pupils will need to take a further 'PCR test' (similar to those done in local and regional testing sites) on the same day (or as soon as possible). School can provide postal PCR test kits to perform at home or you can go to [www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test](http://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test) or call 119 to book a follow-up test. If ordering a PCR test yourselves, you should choose to visit a drive-through test site if possible, as it is faster than requesting a home test.

During this time while they wait for the PCR result (via text/email) they will need to self-isolate.

If the PCR test returns a positive result you will have to self-isolate and follow the guidance from NHS Test and Trace.

### **What happens if the test is negative?**

They will be able to stay in school and resume their activities as normal. A pupil will only be told if they test positive on a 'lateral flow' test, so if you do not hear you can assume it was negative. A small number of pupils may need to repeat the test if the first test was invalid or void for some reason.

### **What if a close contact at school/college tests positive?**

A close contact of someone in school who has tested positive for COVID-19 would be recommended to take daily lateral flow tests for 10 days. Close contacts are now no longer required to self-isolate and so children would be expected to be in school, although we would strongly recommend that they carry out daily testing.

### **What if my child develops symptoms?**

This testing programme at school is for people with no symptoms. If your child develops symptoms at any time (such as a high temperature; a new, continuous cough; or a loss or change to their sense of smell or taste) they must immediately self-isolate, and book a test by calling 119 (England, Wales and Northern Ireland) or 0300 303 2713 (Scotland) or visiting <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

We will support our staff and pupils throughout, but please contact us if you have any questions. You can call the office on 01386 554196 or email [office@pinvinfed.co.uk](mailto:office@pinvinfed.co.uk)

Yours faithfully,

Mrs R Henrick

Acting Headteacher

**Tel: 01386 554196**  
[office@pinvinfed.co.uk](mailto:office@pinvinfed.co.uk)

**[www.pinvinfed.co.uk](http://www.pinvinfed.co.uk)**