



Portadown College

Principal: Gillian R Gibb, BA(Hons), PGCE, MSc, PQH(NI)

Monday 22 March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer and Student

Re: Lateral Flow Device (LFD) Testing

As you may be aware from recent media coverage, the Department of Education and the Education Authority, in conjunction with the Public Health Agency, have introduced a programme of self-testing for students in Year 12-14 and all staff in post-primary schools in Northern Ireland. **This programme is voluntary and all participants are required to opt-in.**

All students in Years 12-14 are encouraged to read the attached information leaflet and watch the video and presentation (preferably with a parent/carers) to learn more about how testing using a LFD works (links below).

Any student aged 16 and over can give consent themselves to participate in the programme; however, we advise that these students discuss the programme and complete the consent form with their parents/carers' knowledge. Students who are under 16 require parental consent to participate.

Students who wish to participate, or the parents /carers of students who wish for their son/daughter to participate, should read the consent information at the top of the Google Form before completing the form (link below). We would request that the consent form be completed by 3.35pm on Wednesday 24 March. It is anticipated that the test kits will be distributed by Friday 26 March for use over the Easter holidays on a Wednesday and a Sunday evening.

All tests will be carried out at home (with adult supervision, if possible) and only positive tests will need to be reported to College. In the event of a positive LFD test, the student and his/her family will be required to self-isolate until the student has been tested again by PHA at one of the testing centres. If that test is positive, College should be informed and the normal self-isolation requirements will apply; if the result is negative, the student can return to College and the family will no longer be required to self-isolate.

If, after reading the information leaflet and watching the presentation and video, you or your son/daughter have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at College.

Yours sincerely

Gillian R Gibb

Principal

Presentation: <https://sway.office.com/whz8dJ46JpeKLcIV?ref=Link>

Video: <https://youtu.be/ebxhEOLfTNO>

Google Form for consent: <https://forms.gle/GkK5N7QU DY7kXxNv7>

