

Bristol Free School Concorde Drive Bristol BSI0 6NI

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25 August 2021

Headteacher: Mrs S. King

Dear Parent/Carers

Year 7 asymptomatic testing ahead of the start of term

The Department of Education has asked schools to reopen their Asymptomatic Test Centres in September to test all students (with consent) twice at the start of term.

Students joining the BFS family in Year 7 will receive their first Lateral Flow Test on Monday 6 September. On this day they will attend for the Covid 19 Lateral Flow Test only and return home afterwards. After the first negative Lateral Flow Test, face to face teaching can commence on the next day. The second test will be organised 3-5 days after the first test, when students are back in school.

The timetable for Year 7 testing is set out below:

Test time	TG	Arrangements
9.00	7TG1	Students should arrive at the Concorde Drive main student gate
9.30	7TG2	 (half way along Concorde Drive) 10 minutes before their test time. Students must bring a face covering to wear, but do not need to wear school uniform. They should avoid bringing any other items to the test centre. Students will be on site for up to 30 minutes, after which they should return home directly.
10.00	7TG3	
10.30	7TG4	
11.30	7TG5	
12.00	7TG6	
12.30	7TG7	

We know that students may feel nervous about starting at their new school and attending for a test. We will have support in place to help. They will be greeted at the gate by their Year Leader and Form Tutor, and will then go to the Sports Hall where they will wash their hands prior to entering the Test Site in groups of four.

We are fortunate to have an experienced team of school staff who support the testing process. Our team completed over 3000 tests for students and staff earlier this year. There are photographs below of how our test centre is set up which will hopefully help to prepare your child for the day. Students will self-swab guided by trained staff who are experienced in supporting students with this. The tests we are using are NASAL SWAB only, which many find more comfortable. However should your child be unable to take a nasal swab they can be offered a throat swab test as an alternative. *Please indicate this on the consent form below.*

Consent - Please complete this consent form by <u>4pm on Wednesday 1 September</u> <u>https://forms.office.com/r/tk2i2CEZKG</u>

When completing the form please indicate if your child has any other needs that we should be aware of, so that we can be prepared.

NB. If your child has tested positive for Covid 19 they do not need to test for 90 days, in line with this guidance: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-

infection#:~:text=lation%20period%20has%20ended%20lf,it%20is%20more%20than%2090



If this is the case, please let us know on the consent form. This will also mean that your child may not need to take part in the twice weekly home testing programme during September.

Test results will be sent by the NHS to the email address and mobile number provided on the consent form. **Should** a student test positive we will contact you directly by telephone.

If you have any questions about the testing process at any stage please get in touch by email to covid.testing@bristolfreeschool.org.uk

Best wishes

Mrs K Conway Assistant Headteacher



