



Date: July 2021

IMPORTANT LETTER: COVID testing in school, staggered return in September, testing at home and Summer School.

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you for your continued engagement in the COVID-19 testing programme. The following letter contains important information for all parents/carers about planned testing in school for September, a staggered return to school, testing at home and the Summer School.

Testing in September

This autumn, asymptomatic testing will resume in secondary schools and colleges - including **two tests in person on return to school**. After the two in-school tests, pupils will then be expected to carry on testing themselves at home twice a week using LFD tests obtained online, from school or via their local pharmacy. The Government will review this at the end of September.

THE CONSENT FORM - Testing in School

In preparation for this, it is essential that **all parents, including current Year 6, complete the following form NOW**, letting us know whether you do or do not give consent for your child to be tested on their return in September. All parents must complete this consent form, even if you did so last year, so that our electronic database is fully populated with up to date details. Please complete one form per child:

> > [NHS Test & Trace Consent Form for COVID-19 Testing](#) < <

Staggered return in September

Due to the testing there will be a staggered start to the school year. All pupils will be tested twice but are allowed to start school the day after their first test (the result must be negative). All pupils are reminded to bring a face covering and wear as and when required. **The programme for testing in school is as follows:**

- **Tuesday 7th September:**
 - 09.30am Year 7 surnames **A-F** first test and then return home.
 - 10.00am Year 7 surnames **E-L** first test and then return home.
 - 10.30am Year 7 surnames **M-R** first test and then return home.
 - 11.00am Year 7 surnames **S-Z** first test and then return home.
 - 12 noon Year 11 surnames **A-E** first test and then return home.
 - 12.30pm Year 11 surnames **F-L** first test and then return home.
 - 13.00pm Year 11 surnames **M-S** first test and then return home.
 - 13.30pm Year 11 surnames **T-Z** first test and then return home.
- **Wednesday 8th September:**
 - 08.25am Year 11 & Year 7 start school (wear school uniform and bring equipment).





- 09.30am Year 9 surnames **A-D** first test and then return home.
- 10.00am Year 9 surnames **E-M** first test and then return home.
- 10.30am Year 9 surnames **N-Z** first test and then return home.
- 11.30am Year 10 surnames **A-E** first test and then return home.
- 12 noon Year 10 surnames **F-L** first test and then return home.
- 12.30pm Year 10 surnames **M-R** first test and then return home.
- 13.00pm Year 10 surnames **S-Z** first test and then return home.
- **Thursday 9th September:**
 - 08.25am Year 10 & Year 9 start school (wear school uniform and bring equipment).
 - 09.30am Year 8 surnames **A-D** first test and then return home.
 - 10.00am Year 8 surnames **E-K** first test and then return home.
 - 10.30am Year 8 surnames **L-S** first test and then return home.
 - 11.00am Year 8 surnames **T-Z** first test and then return home.
- **Friday 10th September:** All pupils in school (wear school uniform and bring equipment).
- Second tests will then take place during the normal school day on rotation.

How the tests work

Pupils taking the tests in school will be supervised by trained staff. Lateral flow tests are quick and easy to undertake and there is no charge. Pupils who test positive will be informed about their results immediately. Parents/carers will also be notified by school. Following this, parents will also receive a test result notification from the online NHS system via text/email.

Considerations for children with SEND

We recognise that the self-swabbing part of the test may cause significant concerns for some children and young people with SEND and their families. Some of these concerns may be alleviated by discussing them with school, agreeing strategies to help reduce anxiety and putting in place any reasonable adjustments (if the individual has a disability). Parents may want to look at the Mass Testing Guidance for Specialist Settings for further information: [Mass asymptomatic testing in specialist settings - GOV.UK](#)

Testing during Summer School

Arrangements have been made for Risedale to run a Summer School for its new Year 6 intake and some current Year 7 pupils, where places have been pre-allocated. It is recommended that staff and secondary pupils continue to test regularly whilst they are attending the Summer School, with school providing tests for twice weekly asymptomatic testing for those attending.

There is no need for primary age pupils (those in year 6) to test over the summer period. They will, however, be offered the 2 in-school tests when they start Risedale in September as our new Year 7 group. **It is therefore essential that all parents of Year 6 pupils also complete the CONSENT FORM now.**



Headteacher: Colin D Scott BEd NPQH

Hipswell, Catterick Garrison, North Yorkshire, DL9 4BD. Phone: 01748 833501 Fax: 01748 836149

If your child is not attending our Summer School but you wish to access rapid lateral flow testing during the summer, you can continue to do so by ordering LFD test kits from [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) or by collecting kits from your local pharmacy.

Testing at Home

Up to one third of people who have coronavirus are asymptomatic. By testing we will help to reduce the spread in school through asymptomatic transmission. Please continue to encourage your child to test twice weekly and report the results until the end of the summer term.

- The result of each test needs to be reported, even if their result is negative or void, using the NHS Test & Trace self-report website: [Report a COVID-19 rapid lateral flow test result](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus/covid-19/rapid-lateral-flow-test/).
- You will also need to tell the school the result of each test by completing the following form: [Home Test Result Form - PUPILS](#)
- **Report all positive test results to school:** As your child will be absent from school, you must report this in the normal way, contacting the school as soon as possible, making it very clear that this is because of a positive LFD test result.

The asymptomatic testing at home programme will be paused for students in secondary schools and colleges over the summer holiday but will continue where schools are open for Summer Schools and activities.

Testing twice weekly is helping us stay ahead of the virus by spotting new outbreaks quickly and helping us to plan our response. The preparations that schools and colleges are advised to take for the autumn term are subject to further public health advice and the latest position on the prevalence of the COVID-19 virus.

Yours sincerely,



Colin D Scott - Headteacher

Useful Links:

- Risedale in-school testing Consent Form: [NHS Test & Trace Consent Form for COVID-19 Testing](#)
- Considerations for children with SEND: [Mass asymptomatic testing in specialist settings - GOV.UK](#)
- Ordering LFD test kits: www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests
- Getting a COVID-19 PCR test: www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test
- Report an LFD result to the NHS: [Report a COVID-19 rapid lateral flow test result](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus/covid-19/rapid-lateral-flow-test/).
- Report an LFD result to school: [Home Test Result Form - PUPILS](#)

Privacy Notices:

- [COVID-19 Testing at Home of Pupils](#)
- [COVID-19 Asymptomatic Testing](#)

