



# St Martin's School

**Ysgol Martin Sant**

Hillside, Caerphilly CF83 1UW

Tel. *Ffôn*: 029 20 858050

Fax. *Ffacs*: 029 20 858051

E-mail *E-bost*: [reception@stmartins.caerphilly.sch.uk](mailto:reception@stmartins.caerphilly.sch.uk)

Website *Safle wê*: [stmartins.caerphilly.sch.uk](http://stmartins.caerphilly.sch.uk)

Headteacher *Prifathro*: Mr. L. Jarvis

8 March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

You may have heard in the media about Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing, and how this is being used to identify asymptomatic cases of COVID-19 in certain workplaces, such as schools and care homes. As we are offering regular, twice weekly LFD testing to all of our school staff, we feel that it is important to explain in a little detail how the process will work in Caerphilly's schools.

LFD testing can be used quite successfully to detect asymptomatic cases of COVID in the community, where those cases are particularly infectious. It is less successful at detecting those with a lower level of infection, but those with a low level of infection are far less likely to pass the infection on to close contacts.

In Caerphilly schools, in order to try to minimise any further disruption within our classrooms, all staff who are happy to participate in LFD testing will be provided with the necessary equipment. Tests will be performed by staff members at home on a Monday (by 7.30am) and then later in the week on Friday evening after school. This regime has been proposed to provide minimum disruption to school staff and pupils.

## How does the system work?

Any staff members taking part in the testing will perform a test at home on a Monday and Friday

If the test is positive, the headteacher will be informed and the staff member will arrange a further test in order to confirm the result.

Pupils will be required to self-isolate immediately but may be able to return to school if the confirmatory test is negative. If the confirmatory test is positive, all close contact will be required to self-isolate for the full 10 days.

Further guidance on LFD testing can be found here:

<https://gov.wales/lateral-flow-testing-people-without-symptoms>

Thank you for your patience and understanding whilst we continue to adapt to this additional measure.

Yours sincerely,

Mr L Jarvis  
Headteacher

**Learning Together, Achieving Forever**    **Dysgu ynghyd, cyflawni o hyd**