



Monday 23rd August 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you are well and that you have had an enjoyable summer.

As we reach the end of the school summer break, you will be aware that there has been a natural and expected rise in the number of Coronavirus cases in the Bailiwick. The changes to border restrictions have resulted in increased movements of people to and from the Bailiwick and it is important to monitor carefully what is happening from a COVID perspective across the community.

Testing for Children and Young People Ahead of the New Academic Year

As you will know, children have not been vaccinated and are therefore the most likely to catch and transmit the virus. In order to minimise the potential impact of COVID cases within educational settings and to reduce the risk of the virus spreading within our community, all children and young people from reception age upwards will receive a free pack of Lateral Flow Tests. These packs will be delivered to you by Guernsey Post at home over the next 7 days. The tests are easy to administer and require a swab sample to be taken from the lower nasal area.

This testing is voluntary but is very valuable in terms of protecting the operation of the school and we would therefore be grateful for your support. Your child should take two tests during the week before they return to school, 3 days apart, with the latter of these tests being taken on the day before they return to school. For example, if your child is due to start school on 3rd September, we would ask that they undertake tests on 30th August and 2nd September. The tests should be done in the mornings if possible and we would be grateful if you could, please, help your child with the test to ensure they are done properly. Instructions will be included in the pack and you should follow these carefully, or there is a simple step-by-step guide available at <https://covid19.gov.gg/faq/LFT>.

If the test results are negative, you do not need to do anything. However, if any test is positive, your child should self-isolate and you should contact the Clinical Helpline by calling 01481 756938 or 01481 756969 to arrange a confirmatory PCR test.

If your child has travelled outside of the Bailiwick and will attend school within 14 days of their return, they will still need to undergo a PCR test within the 48-hour period prior to their attendance, even if they have travelled through the "blue channel". This is free and can be requested at <https://gov.gg/returntoeducation>.

Ongoing surveillance testing

In order to continue to reduce the risk of COVID spreading in school settings, all children attending secondary schools are being asked to continue undertaking lateral flow tests twice a week, ideally 3 or 4 days apart. This approach will help with early detection, reduce the risk of children having to miss school and to reduce the risk of the virus spreading in our community. Please support us by



reminding your children to take their tests twice a week and. Where a student is under 12 years of age, a parent should oversee the test process. As above, if the tests are negative, you do not need to do anything. However, if the test is positive, you should self-isolate and contact the Clinical Helpline by calling 01481 756938 or 01481 756969 to arrange a confirmatory PCR test.

Risk reduction

To ensure ongoing risk reduction and to minimise the likelihood of disruption to schools, our staff will also be asked to undertake lateral flow tests twice a week for at least the first half of the Autumn term.

You can help us by:

Remaining vigilant for COVID symptoms and contacting the Clinical Helpline by calling 01481 756938 or 01481 756969 if you or your child has any symptoms, no matter how mild

- Not sending your child to school if they are unwell
- Maintaining good hand hygiene and respiratory practices (catch it, bin it, kill it)
- Minding your personal space

Yours sincerely

Mrs V Godley
Principal