

Dear Parent/ Carer

The Government has asked schools to set up asymptomatic testing sites for pupils to be tested twice on return to school in September. Pupils in years 7 to 13 will be able to be tested on Monday 6 September and Thursday 9 September. All testing is voluntary and consent must be given (anyone over 16 can provide their own consent). Testing for HMS and QEHS will take place at the old Hexham Middle School site (on Wanless Lane, NE46 1BU). We will be using the Orient rapid test which is a nasal swab only. Your child will be supervised and testing guidance will be given.

Participation

Participation in asymptomatic testing is voluntary, however we are encouraging as many pupils as possible to take part. Asymptomatic testing is an important strategy in reducing the transmission of COVID-19 and will help keep our pupils, staff and families safe. You do not need to notify us if your child is unable to attend. Please note, anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 90 days should not take part in asymptomatic testing. In line with the latest [Government advice](#), your child must not attend school if they have COVID symptoms. Instead, you must arrange a PCR test for them and they should isolate until the results are received.

Timings

We have allocated testing slots based on surname initials to enable siblings to attend together. In order to get all pupils tested, we ask that they attend at their allocated time slot wherever possible. If your child is unable to make their allotted time, they may attend at another time but there could be a longer wait. Please note there will be no testing between 10.00 and 10.15am and 1.00 and 1.30pm. The schedule is at the end of this letter.

Arrival

On arrival at HMS, your child must report to the registration tent which will be situated on Fellside field. Your child will be given a registration card and directed to the appropriate testing area (either in the main school hall or the canteen).

Parking

There will be no parking on the school site, but you will be able to drive onto site and drop off your child. Please drive onto the HMS site via Wanless Lane - a one-way system will operate around the gatehouse. Parking may also be available in the M&S car park.

What to do if your child tests positive

If your child tests positive on a lateral flow test, they need to self-isolate and arrange a confirmatory PCR test. The PCR result will override the lateral flow result if received within 48 hours of the lateral flow result.

If the PCR test is positive, your child will need to self-isolate for 10 days. NHS Test and Trace will co-ordinate any subsequent contact tracing (this is no longer completed by school). Anyone identified as a close contact who has received two COVID vaccinations or is aged under 18 years and 6 months is no longer required to self-isolate.

If your child is self-isolating when school returns, they will be able to access remote education and will be notified of how to do this next week.

Hexham Middle School

Whetstone Bridge Road, Hexham, Northumberland NE46 3JB

T: 01434 602533 E: admin@hexhammiddle.org.uk

www.hexhammiddleschool.co.uk

Executive Headteacher: **Graeme Atkins**

Head of School: **Liam Watters**



Hexham Middle School

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Results

If your child tests positive, you will be called to be notified of the result. Due to the logistics of the school move, and resulting changes to the planned start of term, we will not be able to upload all test results live. There will be a delay in you receiving the automated NHS text message result (this may take a few days). Parents of children who test positive will be contacted immediately; if you do not receive a call, your child has tested negative.

Home testing kits

We will also hand out home testing kits to pupils on Thursday 9th. Anyone not able to attend on Thursday can collect a testing kit when they return to school or request one from the NHS or from a designated collection point. We ask that pupils take two tests weekly and you report any positive results to school immediately.

Thank you very much for your support of the testing process. If you have any questions, please contact us on admin@hexhammiddle.org.uk.

Yours faithfully

Mr Watters

Head of School

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Surname Initial	Arrival Time	Test Location
A	8.20am	Fellside Hall
Ba	8.50am	Fellside Hall
Be - Bi	9.10am	Fellside Hall
Bl - By	9.30am	Fellside Hall
Ca - Ce	8.25am	Canteen
Ch – Cl	8.35am	Canteen
Co	8.45am	Canteen
Cr – Cu	9.00am	Canteen
Da - De	9.20am	Canteen
Di - Dy	9.35am	Canteen
E	10.10am	Fellside Hall
F	10.20am	Fellside Hall
Ga - Gi	10.35am	Fellside Hall
Gl – Gu	10.50am	Fellside Hal
Ha	10.10am	Canteen
He – Hi	10.30am	Canteen
Ho - Hy	10.45am	Canteen
I	11.10am	Canteen
J	11.10am	Canteen
K	11.30am	Canteen
L	11.55am	Canteen
Ma	12.15pm	Canteen
Mc	12.30pm	Canteen
Me – Mu	11.55am	Fellside Hall
N	12.15pm	Fellside Hall
O	12.30pm	Fellside Hall
Pa - Pe	12.30pm	Fellside Hall
Ph - Q	1.25pm	Canteen
Ra – Ri	1.45pm	Canteen
Ro – Ry	2.00pm	Canteen
Sa - Sh	2.20pm	Canteen
Si - Sp	2.30pm	Canteen
Sp - Sz	2.50pm	Canteen
Ta – Ti	1.30pm	Fellside Hall
To – V	1.50pm	Fellside Hall
Wa	2.10pm	Fellside Hall
We – Wi	2.30pm	Fellside Hall
Wo – Y	2.50pm	Fellside Hall