



# St Thomas Becket

Catholic Primary School

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Headteacher  
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Dear Parents/ Carers,

You may have heard in the news that lateral flow testing is being implemented across primary schools and nursery settings for staff members. This letter is to update you as to what this means for schools.

All primary schools nationally have been provided with lateral flow tests for staff to use twice a week in an effort to screen for asymptomatic positive cases of COVID19 in order to reduce transmission of the virus. . This will be an additional measure to help support schools to be as safe and as robust as they can be in managing the virus.

The tests are only for staff use at this time and children will not be part of this lateral flow testing programme.

Should a member of staff have a positive lateral flow test result they would be required to book a confirmatory PCR test. This would mean that the year group bubble would have to close and children in that bubble would have to self- isolate, pending the result of the PCR test.

If the PCR test result were negative then we would reopen the bubble; if it returned positive then that bubble would need to continue to self-isolate until a date which would be based on Public Health guidance. We would send you a letter confirming this information.

Children self-isolating would still be able to access our remote learning provision via Google Classroom.

To reassure you, all existing measures in school will continue to be observed and updated with latest guidance – the testing of staff is another support mechanism to keep schools as safe as they can be.

Thank you as always for your ongoing support and understanding.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Harper  
Deputy Headteacher