



Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February

## **NHS Test and Trace: COVID-19 Testing for Pupils**

Dear Parent / Carer,

You may have heard that testing for those without coronavirus symptoms is beginning across the country using new, quicker COVID 19 tests known as 'lateral flow devices.' This letter is to help give you more information about the testing programme in our school.

Along with the other protective measures we are taking, testing will allow us to take further measures to help students to remain in school. 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. I am therefore strongly encouraging students to be tested.

### **How the tests work**

Those taking the test will be supervised by trained staff and volunteers. The lateral flow device tests are quick and easy to undertake, using a swab of the nose and throat. The school will inform the student of a positive test result. Where participants are under 16, parents or carers will also be informed.

### **What if someone tests positive?**

If someone tests positive on a lateral flow device test, they will be informed immediately by school and will have to self-isolate and follow the guidance from NHS Test and Trace.

### **What happens if the test is negative?**

While a small number of participants may need to repeat the test if the first test was invalid or void for some reason, participants who test negative will be able to stay in school and resume their activities as normal. Participants will be informed of negative test results via text/email. Where participants are under 16, parents or legal guardians will be informed.

### **What if students have been in close contact with someone in school who tests positive?**

The student will be notified that they are a close contact by the school and will need to self-isolate as per the national guidelines.

Walcot Road Diss Norfolk IP22 4DH

Tel: 01379 642424 Fax: 01379 642428

[www.dishigh.norfolk.sch.uk](http://www.dishigh.norfolk.sch.uk) email: [office@dishigh.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@dishigh.norfolk.sch.uk)



# Diss High School

Headteacher: Dr J Hunt

## What if they develop symptoms?

This testing programme at school is for people with no symptoms. If anyone develops symptoms at any time (such as a high temperature; a new, continuous cough; or a loss or change to their sense of smell or taste) they must immediately self-isolate and book a test by calling 119 or visiting <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

We will support our staff and pupils throughout, but please contact us if you have any questions by emailing [office@disshigh.co.uk](mailto:office@disshigh.co.uk).

Yours faithfully,

Dr J Hunt, Headteacher

Walcot Road Diss Norfolk IP22 4DH

Tel: 01379 642424 Fax: 01379 642428

[www.disshigh.norfolk.sch.uk](http://www.disshigh.norfolk.sch.uk) email: [office@disshigh.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@disshigh.norfolk.sch.uk)

