

Lowton Church of England High School



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Monday 14 June 2021

Dear parent/carer

PCR tests for those that are self-isolating.

As you are more than aware, we recently asked your child to self-isolate because they were identified as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case. We have a well-established process for this and we do not take the decision to ask your child to self-isolate lightly.

The latest guidance issued from all Directors of Public Health in Greater Manchester is that close contacts should **book a PCR test** to support early identification of the variants of concern and to identify any further transmission between cases. Household members of those isolating can also book a PCR test.

This approach is intended to identify cases, including when people have no symptoms. This will help to identify and isolate cases, prevent onward transmission and minimise case rates in our local community. This will be kept under review and I will advise you as and when this is no longer required.

To book at PCR test go to <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

You will be asked to identify whether you or your child has COVID symptoms. If there are no symptoms, select 'No' for this answer and proceed through the questions until the question: *Why are you asking for a test?*

You should select the box that says *'I've been told to get a test by my local council, health protection team or healthcare professional'*.

Then choose the option that states: *'My local council or health protection team has asked me to get a test, even though I do not have symptoms'*.

You will then be able to book a test.

Once again, I am grateful for your support in helping us manage the situation at school and collectively play our part in driving down transmission of coronavirus. I am sorry for the disruption caused.

Please let the school know the outcome of the PCR test (negative or positive) using testresult@lowtonhs.wigan.sch.uk.

Your child's self-isolation will need to continue for the full period as outlined in my original letter.

In summary, please ensure you book the PCR test for your child and others in your household.

Yours faithfully
Kieran Larkin
Headteacher

CARING, LEARNING AND SUCCEEDING

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Headteacher

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