



The Ripley Academy and Sixth Form

Executive Headteacher: **Mrs L Walton** BA (Hons)



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Head of School: **Mr J de Rijk** BA (Hons)
Deputy Headteacher: **Miss J Scattergood** BEd (Hons)
Deputy Headteacher: **Mrs J Thawley** BSc (Hons)
Assistant Headteacher: **Mr M Kirkland** BSc (Hons)
11th October 2021

Dear Student / Parent / Carer,

As you are aware, the Department for Education has asked all schools and colleges to offer mass testing to all pupils, students and staff. I would like to thank you for your participation in this asymptomatic lateral flow device (LFD) testing.

Up to 30-50% of people who have Covid-19 virus may have no or very mild symptoms, but they could still spread the disease to others. Regular twice weekly testing and reporting, along with other preventive measures, helps limit the transmission of Covid-19. This helps keep our schools open and our community safe.

Quality Assurance is an important part of the testing programme. It helps the NHS Test & Trace ensure that test kits are effective and that tests are being conducted correctly. One of the ways the quality assurance is undertaken is by doing a 'dual test'. This means that, along with one LFD test, participants are asked to do one PCR test. Comparison of the results helps NHS Test & Trace to ensure the quality of LFD testing.

Our school has been invited to participate in this dual testing exercise and I am writing to you to let you know what this involves.

The Testing Quality Assurance is due to run from 11th to 29th October after which the school will revert to current testing.

What does Dual Testing involve?

Students who are doing twice weekly rapid tests at home will also be provided with **one PCR kit by the school**.

Students will be asked to take one additional PRC test swab when they do their next rapid (LFD) test, and then complete a quick and simple online form.

Further details are included in the Participant Information Sheet also attached.

Should you have any further questions, please contact the school on 01773 746334.

Participation is voluntary but we encourage you to participate where possible.

If you are happy for your child to participate in this exercise, please sign and return the consent form which will allow your child to collect a PCR test from school from the Student Support reception.

Kind Regards,

Miss J Scattergood
Deputy Headteacher

The Ripley Academy, Peasehill, Ripley, Derbyshire, DE5 3JQ.

CONSENT FORM

I authorise my child (NAME) (Form)
to take part in the Quality Assurance Dual Testing exercise and request a PCR kit for this purpose.

Signed: Date:

Relationship to child: