

COVID-19 Lateral flow testing risk assessment in schools

Description:	Covid-19 Lateral flow testing risk assessment	Assessment reviewed by manager name: John Kulyk			
Name of team/service or individual:	HALESBURY SCHOOL	STAFF AND PUPILS			
Date of managers assessment:	27/01/21				
<p>From the beginning of January, schools and colleges starting with secondary schools and FE colleges, including special schools and alternative provision will be provided with testing kit including PPE. They will be provided with comprehensive guidance and training materials and support to introduce a testing programme that works for staff and students/pupils.</p> <p>For every group, testing is voluntary, but those who are eligible for tests are strongly encouraged to participate to reduce the risk of transmission within schools and colleges. In line with routine infection control practice, close contacts who decide not to be tested daily will need to self-isolate in line with the Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection.</p>					
Task / Activity	Hazard	Who might be harmed and how?	Are your team carrying out this Task/Activity (COVID-19 only)	Existing control measures	Recommended control measures
Initial Preparations	COVID-19 Virus Biological Hazard	<p>All persons involved in named activity.</p> <p>Respiratory symptoms, fever, cough, breathing difficulties. Severe cases acute respiratory syndrome, even death</p>	Yes	<p>Managers to write what is being done now and then refer to Recommended controls:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Premises Covid-19 Risk Assessment formulated and actioned alongside the schools planning framework Halesbury will follow Government and Local Authority guidance for special schools which can be found here. Anyone showing symptoms of, coronavirus (COVID-19) (a new continuous cough, a high temperature, or a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell - anosmia), or have someone in their household who is, not allowed in a school or childcare setting. Staff and families with COVID-19 symptoms to follow government guidance and self-isolate at home Testing staff have read the NHS and DFE guidance and ensure all relevant staff take the NHS online training Designated storage space for testing kits Planned out testing area and workflow Testing approach is communicated to all testing staff which includes an onsite run through. 	<p>Manager's to move Recommended Controls into Existing Controls once they are implemented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure you have enough of the appropriate PPE for staff

Preparation of Testing Area	COVID-19 Virus Biological Hazard	<p>All persons involved in named activity.</p> <p>Respiratory symptoms, fever, cough, breathing difficulties. Severe cases acute respiratory syndrome, even death.</p>	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Testing Site has been Identified. • Consent forms are completed to gain formal consent for testing and sharing results • Testing order has been written and shared with staff. • Testing area is cleaned between tests and PPE contamination protocols are followed • Test site flooring is non-porous • Test site is well lit and has good airflow • Registration desk is at the first point where test subject enters the Test site • One-way direction of travel for test subjects. • One test subject at a time only in swabbing bay • Swabbing desk has a processing desk close by –no more than 1m away. Recording desk located close by in separate booth. • Test subjects must not enter area processing area. This is demarcated. • Clear division between swabbing and processing area. This is demarcated. Test subjects must not enter the processing area • Key considerations have been considered include social distancing, disability access, and fire safety regulations • School is following the NHS Covid-19 National Testing Programme-Schools and Colleges Handbook 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • •
Training	COVID-19 Virus Biological Hazard	<p>All persons involved in named activity.</p> <p>Respiratory symptoms, fever, cough, breathing difficulties. Severe cases acute respiratory syndrome, even death.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Testing staff identified and trained • All staff who will conduct LFD testing have completed the online NHS Test and Trace training • All school testing staff have access to the training portal and have watched the training videos relating to their role as well as infection control training. • All staff have face to face practical testing training either at Saltwells EDC or on site before commencing testing. 	

Testing	COVID-19 Virus Biological Hazard	All persons involved in named activity. Respiratory symptoms, fever, cough, breathing difficulties. Severe cases acute respiratory syndrome, even death.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Testing staff identified and trained, and appropriate PPE provided • Testing is optional, and anybody who no longer wishes to be tested will not be required to continue. Parents will be informed where applicable. The school COVID-19 risk assessment will be followed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeping any devices used for registration kept clean between each use and following contamination IPC measures carefully
Maintain testing frequency	COVID-19 Virus Biological Hazard	All persons involved in named activity. Respiratory symptoms, fever, cough, breathing difficulties. Severe cases acute respiratory syndrome, even death.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lateral flow tests are provided weekly for secondary pupils with consent, and twice 3-5 days apart upon return to school following an absence. • Staff and frequent visitors are tested twice weekly 3-5 days apart where consent is provided. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
Test Analyse and resulting actions	COVID-19 Virus Biological Hazard	All persons involved in named activity. Respiratory symptoms, fever, cough, breathing difficulties. Severe cases acute respiratory syndrome, even death.		<p>Staff and pupils who do not wish to be tested daily or are unable to be tested for any reason, must self-isolate in accordance with national guidance until 10 days after the person they are a contact of tested positive or if they have Covid-19 symptoms.</p> <p>Negative Lateral Flow Test Result Participants will continue with their normal activities until their next test is due. Continue to follow all guidance and risk mitigations as per the school risk assessment and government guidance.</p> <p>Positive Lateral Flow Test Result Participants will follow the national guidance. Self-isolate immediately. While positive case rates remain high, a positive LFD test taken in the school test centre will immediately trigger the legal duty to self-isolate. A confirmatory PCR test is not required at the current time. Contact tracing procedures will be implemented.</p> <p>Anybody who tests positive, either in the school setting or elsewhere, will not be tested again for 90 days.</p> <p>If a participant gets 2 consecutive void test results but does not display any symptoms, the guidance for those not participating in asymptomatic mass testing will be followed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A waiting area should be identified for positive cases to await collection where needed.

PPE Requirements	COVID-19 Virus Biological Hazard	All persons involved in named activity. Respiratory symptoms, fever, cough, breathing difficulties. Severe cases acute respiratory syndrome, even death.		All testing staff to wear appropriate PPE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • disposable gloves • disposable plastic apron (depending on role) • surgical, fluid resistant face mask • Visor (depending on role) • PPE has been supplied to schools alongside the testing kits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PPE to be reordered as needed
Storage	COVID-19 Virus Biological Hazard	All persons involved in named activity. Respiratory symptoms, fever, cough, breathing difficulties. Severe cases acute respiratory syndrome, even death.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure Storage Facilities Identified • Locks on both doors in storage area accessible to staff only. • Kits are stored at room temperature: • Extraction solution stored at 2-30o C • Test cartridge stored at 2-30o C 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

Follow [guidance on PPE](#) (GOV.UK). Additional guidance on [Disposal of PPE- see Gov guidance \(cleaning\)](#)

General training for staff- toolbox talks, etc

[Personal hygiene- hand washing etc before and afterwards](#)- See HSE guidance

Expiry dates of PPE and checking these <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus/education-and-childcare>

There are also resources available for schools to talk to young people about COVID and mass testing at www.storicise.com with more planned to be ready for schools, parents and young people to access at start of Jan.