



Queen Eleanor's Church of England Junior School
*An Academy in the Good Shepherd Trust**
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"A caring, supportive community, grounded in a Christian ethos, where children are inspired to explore their potential and develop skills for life."

Head Teacher: Jo Davies

Friday 22nd January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are keeping well and are managing to find some time to relax in your busy days. Thank you again for all of your patience and support at this challenging time. We do appreciate how difficult it is for you to support your children's learning whilst many of you are working at home yourselves.

I wanted to inform you of the Department for Education programme of asymptomatic Covid-19 testing in primary schools that it will start next week. From Monday, testing in Primary schools is available for all staff. The test being used is the Lateral Flow Device and the staff carry out the test at home before attending school. Lateral Flow Device (LFD) tests have been widely and successfully used to detect COVID-19 in asymptomatic individuals. No test is perfect, but the speed and convenience of LFD tests supports detection of the virus in asymptomatic individuals who would not otherwise be tested.

The testing is to take place twice a week and the results sent to the school and the DFE. Should a staff member test positive on this test, they are required to self-isolate and then arrange for a normal PCR test. At this point, the school will seek advice from Public Health England (PHE) as to whether the class bubble would need to isolate. Please be aware that bubbles may still need to isolate at short notice; the school will inform families as soon as possible if children need to isolate.

Queen Eleanor's have now received the tests and we are starting this programme of testing on Monday. We have asked our staff to take part but it is not mandatory. All of the risk assessment measures, that are currently in place in school, will continue.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for your very generous donations to the Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice. Our Christmas 'Elf Run' raised an amazing total of £5,478.68. The hospice have asked us to thank you all on their behalf. What an amazing amount of money! Thank you.

I hope you are all able to enjoy your weekend and that the weather allows us all to have some fresh air and exercise.

Kind regards,

Mrs Curtin

Interim Headteacher