



Stepaside C.P. School
Carmarthen Road
Kilgetty
Pembrokeshire
SA68 0UG
Tel: 01834 812764
Headteacher: Mr P Harries
head.stepside@pembrokeshire.gov.uk

Pembrokeshire County Council

Cyngor Sir Benfro

Ysgol Gynradd Stepside
Heol Caerfyrddin
Cilgeti
Sir Benfro
SA68 0UG
Tel: 01834 812764
Prifathro: Mr P Harries
head.stepside@pembrokeshire.gov.uk

3rd March 2021

Lateral Flow Testing for Staff

Dear Parents, Guardians and Carers

The Welsh Government has recently announced that it will start a programme of asymptomatic COVID-19 testing in education and childcare settings across Wales.

Along with the primary protective measures we are taking, such as social distancing and good hand hygiene, testing will allow us to take further measures to help you and other staff members to continue working in as safe an environment as possible. Up to one in three people who have COVID-19 have the virus without symptoms so could be transmitting the virus unknowingly.

Tackling the pandemic requires identifying asymptomatic, infectious individuals. Lateral Flow Device (LFD) tests have been widely and successfully used to detect COVID-19 in asymptomatic individuals. The speed and convenience of LFD tests supports detection of the virus in asymptomatic individuals who would not otherwise be tested. They are clinically approved and are crucial in the fight against the virus.

I wanted to advise you that our staff will start carrying out these tests this week. All results will be logged with NHS Wales. If a staff member receives a positive LFD test result, they are required to isolate and arrange a PCR test at a testing centre. This will inevitably have consequences for provision in school and may mean that classes are closed at short notice and pupils expected to isolate. If the PCR test results are negative then pupils will be invited back into school. Whilst pupils and staff are isolating, learning will move online as it has been throughout periods of lockdown.

We intend to carry out our testing twice weekly. This coming week only one test will be undertaken by staff on Thursday so please pay particular attention to school communications **EMAIL** and **TEXTS** for updates. If you do not see a message then please assume classes are open as normal.

Many thanks for your continued support during this challenging time and as always, please feel free to get in touch with any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Mr P. Harries, Headteacher