

PURBROOK INFANT SCHOOL ALDERMOOR ROAD EAST, PURBROOK PO7 5NQ

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25 January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

As you may have heard via the media, the Department for Education has announced a programme of **voluntary**, asymptomatic Covid-19 testing for **staff** in primary schools, school based nurseries and maintained nursery schools.

The test being offered to staff is a Lateral Flow Device test which has been widely and successfully used to detect Covid -19 in asymptomatic individuals. The results are instant.

Up to one in three people who have Covid-19 have the virus without symptoms so could be transmitting the virus unknowingly.

Staff who wish to take part in this programme of testing will be provided with kits to use at home twice a week with all results being reported to the school, this will begin today, Monday 25 January 2021.

If the test shows a positive result, the member of staff, their school bubble and close contact at school alongside their close contacts at home will need to self-isolate. The staff member is then required to book a PCR test. There is a small chance this PCR test will return a negative result, in which case we are informed the period of self-isolation can end.

I hope you agree this is a positive step forward for all schools nationally in keeping everyone safe and stopping the transmission of the virus, with the hope we can get everyone back in the classroom as soon as possible.

Thank you again,

Best wishes and stay safe,

Mrs L A de Carteret

Headteacher