

WOOTTON ACADEMY TRUST

Wednesday 25 August 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Reminder to book your onsite LFD Tests

Thank you very much to those of you who have responded to the letters sent to you by Mrs McMorn and Mr Detheridge asking you to book your child's first onsite LFD tests on Thursday 2 September. We have been encouraged by the response to date; however, if you have not yet booked an appointment, here is the link to do so as well as the link to complete the consent form.

[Your child should not come in for testing, or into school/college if they have COVID symptoms.](#)

To book an LFD Test appointment for a child at Wootton Upper School click here:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/lateral-flow-device-test-1-tickets-167705205785>

To complete the consent form for a child at Wootton Upper School click here:

<https://forms.office.com/r/LYpvcuQqMu>

To book an LFD Test appointment for a student at Kimberley 16 – 19 College, click here:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/lateral-flow-device-test-1-tickets-167707857717>

To complete the consent form for a student at Kimberley 16 – 19 College, click here:

<https://forms.office.com/r/qPdFDaHGUp>

Learners in post 16 provision do not need parental/carers consent, they can complete the form themselves.

Thank you for continuing to ensure your children do twice-weekly at-home LFD testing

It is really important that we all keep doing our twice weekly at home LFD tests and Wootton Academy Trust wants to thank those parents/carers who have diligently reported the results of these tests to us over the summer holiday period and of course, their children for completing these tests.

We hope that our pupils and students, as well as members of staff who have reported positive tests over the summer holiday period, are now virus free and out of self-isolation. Additionally, we hope that those individuals who reported that their symptoms were more pronounced and consequently were very unwell are now well on the road to recovery.

The rules in respect of reporting the outcomes of at-home LFD tests have now changed to informing the NHS rather than the school/college. However, we would ask that if your child has a positive LFD test you continue to let the school/college know via the email address covid19@wootton.beds.sch.uk **Please also use this address to inform us of a positive PCR test result, even if it has been completed as a follow up to a positive LFD test result**

Health and Safety Information

Just a reminder that new Lateral Flow Device Testing Kits will be available at the school and college on Thursday 2 September when your child comes in for their first on-site test.

On return to school/college there will be some changes to our Health and Safety processes. We will no longer be working in year group bubbles, but will be maintaining a series of safety measures. These include touch point cleaning through the day, good ventilation and a continued focus on sanitising hands and handwashing. Face coverings may of course continue to be worn but there is no requirement to do so.

All schools and colleges are expected to be able to 'step up' their safety measures in case of a local outbreak, and this would be in agreement with Public Health England.

Wootton Academy Trust receives regular updates of information from the Local Authorities and from Public Health. Cllr John Wheeler, Vice-Chair of Governors at Wootton Upper School, has sent me the following information to share with parents/carers.

Students Testing

Keep up regular COVID-19 testing this summer!

Secondary school and college students should continue testing and reporting twice a week over the summer holidays – don't forget to report your results to the NHS whether it's negative, positive or void.

Please note you ONLY need to report POSITIVE LFD Test results to Wootton Upper School and/or Kimberley College.

Walk-in Pfizer Vaccinations for 16 – 17 year olds available

16 & 17 Year Olds Can Get Vaccinated

16 and 17 year olds can now get their Pfizer COVID vaccination.

Vaccine drop ins are available for everyone aged over 16, with no appointment necessary. For more information visit www.blmkccg.nhs.uk/drop-in

There are a number of walk-in centres in Bedford and others in Central Bedfordshire.

Parent Governorship– opportunity to meet a governor at Wootton Upper School and Kimberley College on Thursday 2 September

Shortly, the Trust will be writing to all parents/carers to encourage them to consider putting their names forward for our Local Governing Boards [LGBs] at the school and college.

Cllr. John Wheeler, Vice Chair of the Wootton Upper School LGB will be at Wootton Upper School all day on Thursday 2 September to meet parents/carers who would like to find out more about the work the LGB undertakes and to listen to the views of the school's parents/carers. Should you wish to do so, do drop-in to meet Cllr Wheeler, whilst your child is in school for their LFD Test next Thursday. Cllr Wheeler will be near the coffee shop, so you may want to take the opportunity of enjoying a cup of tea or coffee with him.

At Kimberley, Mr. Bob Bunting, Vice Chair of the Kimberley College LGB will be available all day to meet parents/carers who would be interested to learn more about the work of that LGB. We are expecting that the Costa Coffee outlet should be open for part of the day and Mr Bunting will be located nearby.

Free School Meals

On Thursday 2 September please do not forget to collect a packed lunch if your child is entitled to a Free School Meal when you come into the school/college for their LFD Test.

And finally ... welcome

As the start of the new academic year approaches I am sure you will join with me in wanting to extend a very warm welcome to the new staff joining – or in many cases re-joining the Trust this September. We will update our Prospectus so all parents/carers can see the full staff list over the next few weeks.

Some of the colleagues re-joining the Trust have worked for the Trust before and we are absolutely delighted to welcome them back. A number of other colleagues trained with the Trust in 2020 - 2021 and are staying with us, which is excellent, as they already know our systems and practices. Two or three others are former pupils at the Trust and likewise know our values and expectations. Clearly, some of our new team are joining WAT for the first time and I recognize that it will take them a little while to adjust to a new school/college.

Wootton Academy Trust's motto is ***the pursuit of excellence***. If each of us – pupils, students, parents/carers, staff and governors - embark on the 2021- 2022 academic year with our motto in mind seeking to work together to achieve great things then, I am confident, we will achieve great outcomes as a community and 2021 – 2022 will be a very good year. The whole world deserves a good year.

Yours sincerely



Michael Gleeson
Executive Principal
Wootton Academy Trust

Wootton Academy Trust operates:
Wootton Upper School & Arts College
Kimberley 16-19 STEM College
Registered in England and Wales
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