

14 July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are very much looking forward to your child joining us in September and embarking on their Hall Green School journey. We have lots of induction activities arranged which will help them to settle into their new routine.

We have received guidance from the government that we will be required to test all pupils for Covid-19 on their return to school in September 2021. The aim is to ensure that we start the year safely and prevent the continuation of bubbles and large groups of pupils required to isolate if there is a positive case.

Therefore, we need to ask you to grant permission for your child to receive the two LFD tests at the start of the school year. The first one will take place during the morning of their first day, Friday 3 September (9.00 am arrival). The second will take place on the following Wednesday (8 September). Both tests will be carried out with full assistance from our staff team and pupils will be reassured at every point.

Please follow this link https://forms.office.com/r/eC8EHthBaR to grant permission for testing and provide us with urgent information about your child regarding testing, DEADLINE 4.00 pm Thursday 5 August 2021.

Whilst the testing is not compulsory, we strongly urge parents to provide consent in order to keep our whole community safe. A response to the link above is urgently required to enable us to finalise our plans. If the link does not work for any reason, please do contact the school by telephone or email at enquiry@hallgreen.bham.sch.uk

Benefits to the testing programme:

- Asymptomatic cases can be identified, reducing the spread of transmission
- Reduced risk of children spreading the disease to family members, particularly those that may be vulnerable

Many staff and pupils have been tested at Hall Green School twice a week by fully trained staff this academic term, helping us to ensure the whole community is safe. More information can be found here with regards to the lateral flow tests:

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/understanding-lateral-flow-antigen-testing-for-people-without-symptoms

<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=InZRarUWksE</u> An example of a testing site and how tests are completed – please note: pupils **do not** need mobile phones for the registration process.

I sincerely hope you and your family are safe and well and urge you to complete provide the requested information via the link by **4.00 pm Thursday 5 August 2021.** It is vital that we have this information to finalise our safe return to school.

Thank you for supporting the school in this process, helping to keep staff, pupils and their families as safe as possible.

Please remember that the tests are designed to identify asymptomatic carriers of the virus and therefore you must not let your child attend for the test if they have any coronavirus symptoms, instead you should order a PCR test and keep your child at home until a negative result is received.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the school via enquiry@hallgreen.bham.sch.uk.

Yours sincerely

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Miss K Slater Headteacher

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