

Beverley School

A specialist school for children and young people with autism where staff and governors are fully committed to the safeguarding and wellbeing of our pupils



Saltersgill Avenue, Middlesbrough, TS4 3JS

Headteacher: Mrs Pippa Irwin

Deputy Head: Mrs Jane May

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Monday 18th January 2021

Dear parents/carers,

RE: Lateral Flow Testing: Parental Consultation

At Beverley, we are committed to keeping everyone safe and looking at how we can best support our students. From Monday 18th January, we are introducing lateral flow tests for staff.

The government is also offering all secondary age students a lateral flow test.

After many discussions, we are unsure if testing secondary aged students is the right thing to do, due to the unique structure of our school and the vulnerabilities of our students. It is very important for us to work with young people to make the right choices. All through school, we think testing for asymptomatic cases will have little impact on knowing how many students at any one time are positive, as not all students can be tested. I welcome feedback from parents/carers. I want this decision to be made together, in the best interests of our students.

The questions I would like for you to ask yourself are:

Are you happy for your child to administer a test on themselves? I am not prepared for staff who are not medically trained to test students. Only students that can self-administer will be tested.

If not all students in the secondary school and 6th form are being tested, do you still want your secondary aged child to do a test on themselves?

If your child is over 16, they give their own consent. Are you happy for your child to give consent for themselves?

If you answer yes to the above questions can you please contact: office@beverleyschool.org.uk or phone the school office to say you want your child to take a test.

Your replies will help me plan for testing and whether it is something parents/carers really want for their child.

Many thanks for your support,

Pippa

Head Teacher



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