



Wigan Council Education Department



MARSH GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents / Carers,

It has been so lovely to welcome all children back to school, even though we then had to close some bubbles. We had a wonderful Science Week where we studied birds.

The Department for Health and Social Care issued a press release last week, which confirmed that **all family members of primary school aged children are now able to access free Lateral Flow Device tests**. This also includes people in the child's support and childcare bubbles. This is a voluntary scheme.

The staff in school have been taking twice weekly tests since the end of January and, with primary pupils now returning to school, the government has opened up their asymptomatic testing programme to the family members of all primary school pupils. The programme is specifically designed to slow down the transmission of the virus by identifying COVID-19 cases in people who have no symptoms but are still contagious. Home test kits can be collected from a number of sites around the local area.

The LFD tests identifies antigens, is easy to administer and provides a result in around 30 minutes. This means you can effectively and efficiently monitor any potential infections in your household and take the appropriate action in order to keep your family and our school family as safe as possible

Family members, who choose to participate in the testing programme, should use Lateral Flow Devices to test for COVID-19 **twice a week** and should follow up any positive results by booking a PCR test. Please inform school, via email or telephone, of any positive test results. The full press release and the local collection points for your home LFD test kits can be collected from Central Park on Montrose Avenue.

Please contact the school office if you require any additional information.

Yours faithfully

Mrs G Leigh

