

# Misson Primary School

*You already have your wings, we will help you fly*



25 November 2021

To all parents & carers in Year 5 & 6:

Due to the number of recent cases of Covid-19 in Year 5&6 we have been advised by Public Health in the Local Authority that all pupils in those classes should take a precautionary PCR test.

Unfortunately they are close contacts of positive cases and, as such under national guidance, are recommended to get tested (Guidance for contacts of people with confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection who do not live with the person - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk))). Normally NHS Test & Trace would contact positive cases to trace their close contacts and ask them to get a test, but due to the nature and speed of school outbreaks we have been told to accelerate this process by asking parents to book a test.

Public Health are very clear that lateral flow tests (sometimes known as LFT or antigen rapid tests), are **not a suitable alternative** to PCR tests.

You can book a test here (Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus (COVID-19) - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk))) or by calling 119. When you book, you should register that you are doing so as a close contact upon advice from the local council. Pupils do not need to self-isolate while waiting for the results, unless they become symptomatic and/or test positive, and there is no need to pick up your child early today.

You should not arrange to have a PCR test for your child if they have previously received a positive PCR test result in the last 90 days, unless they develop any new symptoms of COVID-19, as it is possible for PCR tests to remain positive for some time after COVID-19 infection.

Kind regards,

John Birch