COVID-19 Surge Testing in Secondary Schools in Cumbria

Information and Request for Consent

Dear Parent / Carer

Cumbria County Council and NHS Test and Trace are asking every person living and working in Cumbria between the ages of 12 and 30 to get a PCR test for COVID-19, even if they do not have symptoms.

This is because infections have risen sharply in Cumbria over recent weeks – particularly among younger age groups.

We have been asked to work with Cumbria County Council to manage the testing of school-aged children whilst they are at school.

A Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test will be conducted. This is different to the tests that pupils have been using at home because the sample is sent to a laboratory to be processed. A PCR test is more sensitive and can also be analysed to show which variant of COVID-19 is present in positive samples.

Your child would NOT need to isolate whilst waiting for their test result.

Testing is likely to take place at school on **Wednesday 30 June.** The test involves your child taking a swab of their own throat and nose. The test will be supervised, and advice provided on how to do this. A trained adult can take the swab where required.

As your child is under the age of 16, we require your consent for them to take a PCR test at school. Please read the attached 'Frequently Asked Questions' sheet and privacy statement. If you have any questions, please contact the school office@workingtonacademy.org

Please complete and return the consent form by **3 pm on Tuesday 29 June 2021** if you are happy for your child to have a PCR test at school.

The consent form link for is https://forms.office.com/r/8EEBRSyGzS .You will need to add your mobile number in order to receive a copy of the result.

Thank you for your ongoing support in helping us to manage COVID-19 within school and our wider community.

Yours sincerely,

D Bird