

Public Health Department  
Eglinton House  
Ailsa Hospital  
Dalmellington Road  
Ayr  
KA6 6AB



**In Confidence**

Date: 24<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Parents/Carers of Children Attending  
Robert Burns Academy

Dear Parent/Carers

**Re: Covid-19 Lateral Flow Device Testing at Robert Burns Academy**

NHS Ayrshire & Arran Public Health are currently piloting testing of pupils and staff to help manage the number of Coronavirus cases within schools. Testing teams are going into secondary schools and supporting pupils and staff with asymptomatic Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing. To date, this has been piloted at two schools within North Ayrshire.

The testing team will be attending The Robert Burns Academy next week from Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2021 to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021 to offer this support.

**Testing is entirely voluntary** and parents/carers will be able to choose to opt their child out of this testing. Please inform the school if you do not want your child to participate in this programme.

The testing team will set up testing booths within the assembly hall. Students will be offered the opportunity to attend at allocated timeslots. The children will be asked to complete an information form prior to testing which will be used to register the test. Information required will be; name, date of birth, postcode, house number and mobile number. A test will then be carried out under the supervision and guidance of NHS staff. We will contact any parent/carer of any young person who has a positive result and they will be offered an immediate PCR test at the school. Any siblings who attend the school will also be able to have an immediate PCR test following consent from the parent/carer.

We know that many people who have Coronavirus are asymptomatic so it is hoped that this programme will identify positive cases who otherwise would not have been found and stop further transmission within the school. In addition, the aim of the programme is to encourage the uptake of LFD testing which all secondary pupils are advised to do twice weekly. If this pilot is successful it may be rolled out to other secondary schools within Ayrshire & Arran.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lynne McNiven'. The signature is written in a cursive style.

**Mrs Lynne McNiven**  
**Director of Public Health**