

To: Parents/Carers

Gofynnwch Am:
Please Ask For:
Rhif Est:
Telephone N°:
Ffacs:
Fax:
E-Bost:
E-Mail:
Cylchlythyr:
Circular:

Gaynor Davies
01443 744001

Fy nghyf: GD/TM
My Ref:

Eich Cyf:
Your Ref:

Dyddiad: 27th November 2020
Date:

Dear Parent/Carer

CORONAVIRUS/COVID-19 TESTING

As you are aware, people across the lower Cynon Valley are being offered a COVID-19 test even if they do not have symptoms of COVID-19. The more people who get tested, the more we can stop the spread of COVID-19 across this area of our County Borough.

As part of this process, all children in Mountain Ash Comprehensive School are being offered the opportunity for a lateral flow test within the school. This will help identify people who do not have symptoms but could unknowingly spread the infection to others.

The test involves taking a swab from the back of the throat and the inside of the nose using a long cotton bud. This process may be uncomfortable for some people but isn't harmful. The process of the swabbing will be undertaken by the child themselves under supervision / guidance from a member of staff. The result from the test will be back within 30 minutes.

We are asking you to discuss this with your child to see if it is something you would like to participate in. Please complete the consent slip at the bottom of this letter and return it to the school. **YOUR CHILD WILL NOT BE TESTED WITHOUT CONSENT** and your support in getting the forms submitted at the earliest opportunity and no later than Wednesday the 2nd of December would be hugely appreciated. You are **not** required to accompany your child for the school based test.

The results will be fed into Track and Trace. Individual results will also be held by the school and provided directly to you.

Tŷ Trevithick
Abercynon, Aberpennar, CF45 4UQ
Abercynon, Mountain Ash, CF45 4UQ

Ffôn/Tel: 01443 744000
Ffacs/Fax: 01443 744024

Gaynor Davies
Cyfarwyddwr Addysg a Gwasanaethau Cynhwysiant | Director of Education and Inclusion Services

Dewiswch iaith a diwyg eich dogfen | Available in alternative formats and languages

Croesawn ohebu yn Gymraeg a fydd gohebu yn y Gymraeg ddim yn arwain at oedi. Rhwch wybod inni beth yw'ch dewis iaith e.e Cymraeg neu'n ddwyieithog.
We welcome correspondence in Welsh and corresponding with us in Welsh will not lead to a delay. Let us know your language choice if Welsh or bilingual.



MAE EICH DATA O BWYS www.rctcbc.gov.uk/diogeludata
YOUR DATA MATTERS www.rctcbc.gov.uk/dataprotection



Pupils should be tested **twice** over a period of about 10 days for COVID-19. The first test will be undertaken in school over a three day period from Monday 7th December to Wednesday 9th December and the second follow up test should be accessed during the week commencing 14th December in one of the main community testing centres at Abercynon Leisure Centre or Mountain Ash Bowls Club between 9am and 7pm. Other pop-up test locations may be also be available during that week.

Following the initial test at the school, anyone who tests **positive** must be collected from school and immediately attend the nearest Testing Centre, at either Mountain Ash Bowls Club or Abercynon Leisure Centre, where they will be fast-tracked for a full follow up confirmation (PCR) test.

They must self-isolate along with their household immediately and await the PCR test result. If the result of the follow up PCR test is negative, self-isolation for the child and household members can end. If the PCR follow up test is also positive, Track and Trace will be in touch to provide further information regarding self-isolation periods for the child, household and other close contacts.

Those who test **negative** will need to continue to follow current national guidance on social distancing and other preventative measures, and attend Abercynon Leisure Centre or Mountain Ash Bowls Club for a follow up test during the week commencing 14th December.

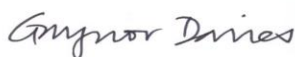
Further details about the mass testing for the lower Cynon Valley can be found on the Rhondda Cynon Taf Council website – www.rctcbc.gov.uk

Parents / carers who are resident in the lower Cynon Valley area who have children aged 11 and above attending schools other than Mountain Ash Comprehensive School are encouraged to get their children, themselves and other family members tested by visiting the Centres at Abercynon Leisure Centre or Mountain Ash Bowls Club. No appointment is necessary. Only individuals with **no symptoms** should attend these centres.

Individuals with symptoms (a new continuous cough, a high temperature, or a loss or change to taste or smell) should book a test by visiting <https://gov.wales/apply-coronavirus-covid-19-test> or by calling the free phone number 119 between the hours of 7am to 11pm.

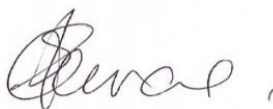
Thank you for you continued support in keeping your child, school staff and communities safe.

Yours sincerely



Mrs. Gaynor Davies

Director of Education and Inclusion Services



Mrs. Samantha Evans

Head teacher, Mountain Ash Comprehensive School

* Further information regarding consent can be found at the [NHS Wales website](#) (click to open the link).

Consent slip

I confirm that I am the parent / carer of the pupil named below and I provide my consent for them to undertake a lateral flow test at Mountain Ash Comprehensive School.

Child's full name	
Child's address	
Child's date of birth	
Year group	
Registration class	
Full name of parent / carer	
Signature of parent / carer	
Date	