

Risk Assessment Form (RA1)

Department: Service: Hillcre	est School	Reference: Educa	tion
Activity: Coronavirus (COVID-19) Rapid Testing <u>on-site</u> (ATS) in Secondary Schools Version 1.1: Updated 07 April 2021 (See pink coloured text for updates; also recorded in Document History) This assessment has been produced by the NCC Corporate Health and Safety Team in collaboration with the NCC Public Health Team.	Site: Secondary settings througho	ut Northumberland	
People at Risk: School Staff, Pupils, Volunteers All staff and volunteers are aware of the content of this risk assessment.	Additional Information: guidance This assessment should be read in Testing Programme: 'How to Guid Operating Procedure (SOP) Rapid See end of this document for links	n conjunction with t <mark>e' - Green Guide</mark> ar I Asymptomatic Tes	he COV <u>ID-19 National</u> nd the <u>Clinical Standard</u> sting in Secondary Schools
This risk assessment should be used for pupil asymptomatic testing on-sit test. Once pupils have performed three Asymptomatic Testing Site (ATS) testing. Note: No test is 100% sensitive and lateral flow testing may not pick up all disruption, all must continue to maintain social distancing and any other p	tests (3 to 5 days apart) and the resu I positive cases. To minimise the risk	Its are negative, pu	pils can commence home
Name of Person Completing Form: Andrea Mead/Alison Miller/Debra Date: 12/04/21	Thompson Job Title:	Hillcrest SLT	Review Date: Further Updates from Government or NCC

Hazard	Risk	Initial Rating L, M, H	Existing Control Measures	Final Rating L, M, H	Additional Action Required (action by whom and completion date – use separate Action Plan if necessary)
Pupils not completing three tests	Incorrect implementation of future home testing leading to misleading test result(s) and therefore Covid transmission	Н	It is very important that initially pupils and students are supervised whilst swabbing to make sure they are doing it correctly. Therefore, testing will initially take place on-site at the Asymptomatic Testing Site (ATS). Secondary settings should offer pupils three tests via an ATS, twice weekly, three to five days apart, upon their return. Pupils cannot commence home testing until they have completed three tests, via the ATS.	L	 From 05 Mar 2021 literature is available that is suitable for parent/carers and pupils, explaining the transition from on-site testing to testing at home for pupils. Hillcrest Specific: School has been open throughout the pandemic with students attending without ATS in place. Students returning from 8/3/21 will not undertake testing in school Parents/Carers receiving communications about testing in school and decision not to undertake along with reasons Parents/Carers to be offered home testing kits for students with link to video to watch process before deciding to proceed based on parental choice on whether student would be able manage LFD test
Symptomatic persons may present at school to take test	Covid transmission	H	Clear instructions are issued to parents and staff that anyone with Covid symptoms or who lives with someone who is showing symptoms of Covid must self- isolate immediately and book a test through the NHS symptomatic testing programme. If a symptomatic pupil attends school or lives with someone who is showing symptoms of Covid, the child is isolated, and the parents are contacted immediately and asked to collect the child (see also "Pupil test is confirmed as positive" p. 14).	L	 Hillcrest Specific: Pupil must be isolated within school until able to be collected Area must be behind closed door with window if possible- School Bungalow Kitchen Area can be outside, on picnic bench if supervised Emergency PPE worn by staff (supplied) Staff only to be tested if symptoms displayed

					 Deep clean of areas accessed to be completed Ensure school has all emergency and secondary contacts School office have rang all contacts to check information provided is correct Notification to parent/carer to collect child and clear instructions provided to self-isolate child and household, requirement to book a test and provide results to school at earliest opportunity. This includes availability of SLT over weekend in the event of a positive result. Where negative result confirmed, student able to return to school if well enough once transport has been confirmed.
School bubble/cohort groupings compromised by testing process	Transmission of Covid virus between separate school cohort groups. Consequential need for targeted testing of a much larger number of additional close contacts	Η	Testing will be carried out in class/bubble groups on an ongoing basis. Testing programme is managed in line with the schools Covid risk assessment (social distancing, hand and respiratory hygiene, face coverings, ventilation, cleaning etc.) and with due consideration to the NHS Test and Trace Risk Assessment Template, Standard Operating Procedure and the How To Guide (see Schools Document Sharing Platform – Templates) Schools Document Sharing Platform – Templates) All pupil tests will be supervised by staff who are trained in the agreed test procedures and protocols. Testing will be conducted at a dedicated testing site in school conforming to the "Key Layout Requirements."	L	 You can use this <u>leaflet</u> to explain testing to pupils, parents and staff. Hillcrest Specific: Parents/Carers receiving communications about testing in school and decision not to undertake along with reasons Parents/Carers to be offered home testing kits for students with link to video to watch process before deciding to proceed based on parental choice on whether student would be able manage LFD test

			Those awaiting test results are kept in an agreed waiting area until the results are known.		
Close contact (within 2m) with individuals being tested and contact with potentially infectious test samples and other materials (e.g. contaminated PPE)	Exposure to virus resulting in contracting Covid	H		L	Sufficient supplies of PPE (including eye protection, fluid-resistant surgical masks, disposable gloves and aprons) have been delivered and sufficient stocks are maintained. Link to signage templates for a testing site. Hillcrest Specific: Successful test area operated between Jan and March – currently not in use Stock levels remain in the event that testing needs to resume
			Testing team wear suitable PPE as defined for each role, follow donning and doffing processes, change PPE at the required frequencies (e.g., between sessions, those with gloves change them after each sample) as directed by the <u>"How To Guide -</u> <u>Requirements by Role"</u> . Arrangements for queueing reviewed and established with social distancing being maintained and one-way circulation where possible. Staff on hand to supervise pupils and implementation of arrangements.		

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Signage displayed reminding all of requirements to maintain social distancing and for the wearing of face covering where distancing may not be maintained.	
Floor markings put in place to aid queue management and compliance.	
Most roles defined in the workforce profile can maintain social distancing, except for the test assistant.	
Face covering worn at all times by staff and students attending for testing except for brief lowering at time of swabbing.	
Testing staff supervise queueing, test subjects flow, distancing and wearing of face coverings and provide reminders where necessary	
Measures in place to allow test subjects to cleanse hands prior to entering the testing area.	
Regular cleaning in place as per the How To Guide and SOP (all staff are aware of their role in relation to frequency of cleaning).	
Furniture that may impede flow, queue, social distancing etc. are removed to prevent unnecessary clutter.	
A strict protocol is in place for the storage and handling of test samples as per the NHS Test and Trace Risk Assessment Template, LFD Testing SOP and the How To Guide (see Schools Document Sharing Platform – Templates).	

Testing process not implemented correctly Insufficient testing capacity established in the	Covid transmission Invalid/false result leading to repeat swab being needed.	Н	A quality management system is in place and a designated member of the team is identified to act as Quality Lead; they have the accountability for quality and risk management of the service (this may be carried out by the Covid Coordinator). Testing requirements have been calculated and the	L	[*the government recommends schools use 1-2 school staff with the remainder being volunteers (e.g. NCC volunteers, agency staff, governors, St John Ambulance etc). Reasonable workforce costs will be reimbursed. When deciding on the
school to ensure 3 tests in the 2 week period	Incorrect result communication or inability to communicate		corresponding number swabbing Desks/Administered Swabbing determined using the ready reckoner within the <u>"How To Guide"</u> . Quality lead monitors capacity and requirements as testing proceeds.		number of individuals required for these roles, consider the requirement to provide cover for any sickness/self-isolation absences.
LFD Kit capability compromised by incorrect handling/storage.	result Anxiety of staff/pupils.		Testing resource availability and site key layout requirements checked prior to commencement against the <u>"How To Guide"</u> .		Larger schools are likely to require a higher number of individuals assigned to these roles, especially during periods of close contact testing]
Insufficient/inappro priate resources available Damaged barcode, lost LFD, failed	Misunderstanding leading to incorrect process being followed.		Deliveries are checked on receipt to ensure kits are complete (using the <u>"How To Guide"</u>) and in good condition and stored in a secure, area away from damp conditions at temperature between approx. 2° C and 30°C.		[**The details and a link to the online training are included in the <u>Training Guide for Rapid Testing in</u> <u>Schools and Colleges</u>]
scan of barcode			A designated team is provided to undertake the *Workforce Profile Roles as defined by COVID-19 National Testing Programme: Schools & Colleges Handbook (the How To Guide) to support the process.		Links to Online Registration Forms: <u>Team Leader</u> , <u>Test Subjects</u> , <u>Logging Results</u> .
			The Workforce Planning Tool (see <u>Planning Tools</u>) has been used to determine roles and numbers of personnel used.		In the event non-school personnel (e.g. parents, carers, family members) request a home test kit from the school for their own use, the school will advise them to obtain
			The workforce has received the designated Online Training** to ensure continuity of testing process including the correct use and allocation of barcodes to reduce risk of wrong allocation of samples and the miscoding of results.		 a kit from: Their employer if they offer testing to them, a local test site or,

			Designated test sites meet key layout requirements defined by the <u>How To Guide</u> . Lateral flow tests are stored between 2 and 30 degrees C in a secure location in accordance with manufacturer's guidance and in a dry environment where there is little chance of foreseeable damage. Devices and reagents must be between 15 and 30 degrees C when in use (room temperature). A written school specific process is established prior to testing with the Team Leader and Test Subjects Registered. Test results added to the schools Test Registered. Test results added to the schools Test Register. All samples are correctly handled, labelled, logged and disposed of. Kits arriving in damaged condition are reported to DfE via contact details within Schools and Colleges <u>"How To Guide"</u> . Process outlines action to take where barcodes are damage/fail, LFD is lost or administrative error leads to inability to communicate result and outlines re-test requirements. The process is periodically reviewed with a Senior School Manager. All students will be fully briefed on the required process to collect and handle samples. Instructional Posters and Test Instruction Booklet for Pupils (contained within the How To Guide) are made available and on display. LFD testing should ideally be carried out in the morning.		 by collecting a home test kit from a test site or, by ordering a home test kit online. Further information is provided within government guidance: <u>Rapid lateral</u> flow testing for households and bubbles of school pupils and staff Hillcrest Specific: Staff allocated home test kits based on requirements (not mandatory) Test area can be reinstalled if necessary Staff trained in all aspects of testing
Not accounting for Special Educational Needs	Emotional/physical distress, exacerbation of	Н	In cases where difficulties carrying out test occur, or where these are anticipated, a person-centred approach is taken. The test and associated concerns	L	Where it is deemed testing cannot be carried out safely refer to section:

and Disabilities leading to adverse response	existing health complication Unable to carry out test		 have been discussed with the child or young person and their family to ensure understanding of the process, support the person making the consent decision, anticipate any particular adverse response and agree strategies that are appropriate. Where necessary parents/carers attend to support the child or young person and the test process. Consideration has been given to specialist staff administering swabs for those who cannot self- administer. Care is taken to ensure the testing area and manners adopted are as calm and reassuring as possible. Additional time for conducting tests and time during breaks are planned to ensure testing is not rushed to help manage potential anxieties. Consideration is given to incorporating relaxing activities and refreshments to help. In situations where the physical nature of the test present problems the approach will be reviewed. With a throat swab (e.g., difficulty in understanding instructions, ability to keep mouth open or a strong gag reflex) a nose swab from both nostrils will be taken instead. Similarly, if a nose swab is not possible a 		 'Testing without appropriate consent; Staff and/or pupils declining the test' For additional information please refer to the guidance on <u>Mass</u> <u>Testing for Specialist Settings</u> Hillcrest Specific: Risk assessment by SLT and Chair of Governors determined that testing of students onsite not appropriate due to SEND and resources needed to deliver this Defined that school needs to be a safe place for students and history from other medical treatments confirms that this creates additional staffing requirements to manage behaviour back in the classroom/school building
			throat swab alone will be taken.		
Exposure to chemicals contained in LFD kits	Potential health hazard	L	Under the intended conditions of use, the quantities concerned and component chemicals are not defined as hazardous and therefore do not have hazard labels associated with them (as per the NHS Test and Trace Risk Assessment Template, (see Schools Document Sharing Platform – Templates).	L	 Hillcrest Specific: Site Manager trained on contents and disposal of kits including cleaning requirements Kits stored away from students

Inappropriate	Covid transmission	Н	PPE to be maintained as stated below. Spillages to be wiped from surfaces in line with standard cleaning protocols. Testing staff briefed not to use LFD kits/solution that has expired processes for disposal. Appropriate PPE for each workforce profile is worn (as	L	PPE/waste bags have been
use/handling/dispo sal of waste (including used LFD kit/PPE)			 described in the <u>"How To Guide"</u>). Staff are trained on how to put on and take off PPE in the correct way. (PHE - <u>Putting on PPE</u>; PHE - <u>Taking off PPE</u> <u>https://youtu.be/-GncQ_ed-9w</u>) Handwashing / hand-hygiene facilities provided in accordance with the How To Guide Testing kit disposed of in accordance with the How to Guide which states: "As a result of the revision to guidance, agreed with DEFRA, Asymptomatic Testing Site (ATS) waste can be disposed of through your mainstream waste disposal route". [i.e your general black bag waste; there is no longer a requirement to dispose of this as healthcare waste] Waste is placed into a tied black waste bag. Where possible waste from testing is separated from usual waste using wheelie bins (ideally 1100 ltr) in an area dedicated to testing waste. 		 delivered to each school. Under the COVID19 RPS C23 regulatory position, waste contractors are able to remove and dispose of waste generated from the LFD testing kits without varying their permit.] Hillcrest Specific: Waste correctly stored for minimum of 72 hours before collection Waste contracts in place
Inadequate cleaning	Transmission of Covid19	Н	Whilst robust cleaning regimes are already in place in the school environment, an enhanced cleaning regime		Hillcrest Specific:

			is in place within the testing site, in line with the guidance in the SOP. All staff involved are aware of cleaning requirements relevant to their role.		 Cleaners conversant with requirements of cleaning Routine processes in place
Testing without appropriate consent Staff and/or pupils declining the test	Covid positive individuals exposing others in school to Coronavirus	Н	 School has established a plan for communication with parents, pupils and staff in consideration to the How To Guide. All parents, pupils and staff have been sent a letter explaining the test process and completed the registration details attached (template & registration details attached (template & registration details letter to parents, pupils and staff.) A signed consent form has also been received. Whilst testing is not mandatory, the school will encourage pupils and their parents and staff to participate to reduce the risk of Covid transmission. Schools ensure robust data handling processes with due regard to data security and handling. Test result records are kept for 14 days and then confidentially disposed of. Staff members are provided with the information pack and the How To Guide explaining the test procedure and are encouraged to discuss any concerns with staff prior to testing. Tests will only be performed once formal consent has been obtained. 	L	 Hillcrest Specific: Communications to staff, parents/carers informing about tests Staff encouraged to participate but not mandatory Parents/carers advised that LFD testing not being undertaken in school and offering option to conduct at home test Records are handled by Admin team and retained for 14 days before disposal All staff completed consent forms and requested test to take home
Application of swab samples results in involuntary reaction (e.g.	Covid transmission arising from staff or pupil contact with another person's body fluid	Н	<i>Testing centre set up in accordance with LFD Testing SOP.</i>	L	Sufficient disposable vomit bowls and spill kits will need to be ordered for each station Body fluid spillage process:

vomiting, gag reflex)	Transmission of		 Pupils/staff provided with instructional information and trained. Staff are on hand to provide guidance and reassurance. Body Fluid spillage guidance outlined within the SOP is followed (see <u>"Clinical Standard Operating procedure (SOP) Rapid Asymptomatic Testing in Secondary Schools"</u> and opposite). Where spillage kits are used they are subject to COSHH risk assessment and staff briefed on the requirements of the assessment. Operations at the testing bay/booth/station shall be ceased and the site personnel will follow the spillage guidelines until the area has been cleaned adequately to allow resumption. Where it is not possible to maintain operations due to compromised distancing to spillages or it is likely that the event may induce vomiting in others the test area should be evacuated until the area has been cleaned. Cleaners and any staff in proximity are to ensure appropriate PPE is in place as relevant to their role (as defined by LFD Testing SOP), avoid Subject contact within 2 meters and change their PPE after cleaning. 		 Cordoned off the affected areas, maintain social distancing Don appropriate PPE, where there is risk of splash, wear eye protection Using disposable paper towels remove all traces of visible spillage, dispose of as waste Once the residual waste has been removed the area must be cleaned thoroughly using a general-purpose detergent solution in warm water, using disposable cloths, rinse and dry Using appropriate disinfection Clean the bucket in fresh water and general-purpose detergent, rinse and dry Dispose of all disposable towels, gloves, cloths, mop heads and disposable apron carefully. Decontaminate hand thoroughly. Hillcrest Specific: Testing now completed on site – no spillages occurred during testing period Staff familiar with process for dealing with spillages through training carried out
Exposure of Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV) /Clinically	Transmission of COVID19 with symptoms that may be exacerbated by	Н	CEV staff are currently shielding at home and therefore do not partake in supporting the testing programme.	L	Hillcrest Specific: Testing completed onsite – N/A

Vulnerable (CV) Staff to Covid19 virus	their personal characteristics/ underlying health condition		CV staff do not take part in supporting the testing programme wherever possible. If this is unavoidable, only specific roles should be considered where strict social distancing can be maintained/no contact with samples. Staff must not supervise (if needed) those pupils who subsequently test positive. Existing individual risk assessments for staff who are CV and taking part in testing are reviewed and updated.		
Failure to maintain adequate on-site ATS whilst there is a need for testing	Failure to effect appropriate testing leading to Covid transmission	Н	In advance of the end of the initial 3 tests in school a review has been conducted to ascertain the likely numbers of pupils who are unable/unwilling to test at home. The review has been used to calculate the anticipated number of testing bays that will be maintained on-site. Senior Management Team continually review numbers of pupils making use of the testing bays to adjust resourcing to ensure suitable testing capacity is maintained. Infection Prevention and Control for School-based Asymptomatic Testing Sites is maintained (see above). ATS follows key layout requirements as defined by the <u>'How to Guide' - Green Guide</u>	L	 Hillcrest Specific: Initial delivery sufficient for staff testing at home No further requirement to maintain testing bays currently

Confirmation of a positive test

Hazard	Risk	Initial Rating L, M, H	Existing Control Measures	Final Rating L, M, H	Additional Action Required (action by whom and completion date – use separate Action Plan if necessary)
Staff LFD test is confirmed as positive	Exposure of others to live virus resulting in contracting Coronavirus	H	 Staff member/ Head Teacher / School Lead is notified immediately and the staff member is requested to follow PHE guidance on self-isolation - <u>Stay at Home.</u> <u>Staff should isolate after a positive LFD result.</u> They will also need to arrange a PCR test to confirm the result. If the PCR test is taken within 2 days of the positive LFD test, and the results are negative, it overrides the previous LFD test and the staff member can return to school. Refer to <u>School risk assessment</u> and procedure for dealing with symptomatic persons on site (including the arrangements for 'deep cleaning' school facilities, identifying close contacts etc). Following a positive LFD test result, the school identifies any close contacts of the test subject and provides self-isolate in line with <u>Government Stay at Home guidance</u>. The other household members of those self-isolating do not need to self-isolate unless the child, young person or staff member they live with in that group subsequently develops symptoms. If a close contact in a class or group that has been asked to self-isolate develops symptoms themselves within their isolation period they should follow guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection.	L	Confirmed cases of Covid-19 should be recorded via ANVIL, as they may be RIDDOR reportable. Any transmission of Covid19 where it is likely the result of a breach in the asymptomatic testing process will be reportable to the HSE as a notifiable disease. You should seek further advice via NCC's Corporate Health and Safety team (or your own H&S provider for some Academies) * A confirmatory PCR test is currently not mandatory for those staff/pupils testing positive via asymptomatic LFD testing being carried out on school sites. Hillcrest Specific: Onsite LFD testing has completed, all staff advised that a positive home result requires a PCR test and normal guidelines regarding self- isolation apply and must contact school immediately so track and trace can be implemented.

Pupil test is	Covid transmission	Н	Household contacts of those identified as close contacts of the positive case, do not need to self- isolate unless that individual subsequently develops symptoms. Pupils will be fully briefed prior to testing regarding the	L	Follow "What to do if a pupil/student
confirmed as positive	from person who has tested positive Pupil anxiety following confirmation they have Covid 19		 implications and procedure if they test positive. They should be reassured that symptoms are likely to be mild. Pupils will remain in their classroom or designated waiting area when waiting to receive test results. Any pupils who test positive will be moved immediately to a place of isolation until they can be picked up by parents/carer. Parents are alerted in advance that they may need to collect children who test positive. Pupils should isolate after a positive LFD result. They will also need to arrange a PCR test to confirm the result. If the PCR test is taken within 2 days of the positive LFD test, and the results are negative, it overrides the previous LFD test and the pupil can return to school. They are strongly advised to wear a fluid resistant mask (IIR) where available or a conventional face covering. School processes and risk assessments are reviewed to account for the possibility that the person collecting a pupil(s) who has tested positive may also be asymptomatically positive. Household contacts (i.e. siblings/family members attending the same establishment) of those identified as close contacts of the positive case, do not need to self-isolate unless that individual subsequently develops symptoms or are advised otherwise by NHS Test and Trace. 		tests positive for COVID-19" guidance within COVID-19 National Testing programme: Schools & Colleges Handbook with due regard to the following: * A confirmatory PCR test is currently not mandatory for those staff/pupils testing positive via asymptomatic LFD testing being carried out on school sites. Hillcrest Specific: Onsite LFD testing not being undertaken for students, parents/carers advised that a positive home result requires a PCR test and normal guidelines regarding self-isolation apply and must contact school immediately so track and trace can be implemented.

			Refer to <u>School risk assessment</u> and procedure for dealing with symptomatic persons on site (including the arrangements for 'deep cleaning' school facilities, identifying close contacts etc). Following a positive LFD test result, the school identifies any close contacts of the test subject and provides self-isolation advice. Those close contacts are asked to self-isolate in line with <u>Government Stay</u> <u>at Home guidance</u> . If a close contact in a class or group that has been asked to self-isolate develops symptoms themselves during their isolation period they should follow <u>guidance for households with possible or confirmed</u> <u>coronavirus (COVID-19) infection</u> . Site specific arrangements include restricting access to the premises to outside or limited areas only and enhanced measures see <u>COVID-19 School Risk</u> <u>Assessment</u> "Contact with others who may have Coronavirus".		
Travel home following positive test (unescorted). Parents unable to collect pupil after positive test	Exposure of others to live virus resulting in contracting Coronavirus	Н	The school's existing process for symptomatic children is followed. Children should not use public transport. Where a child or young person is able to wear a face covering and keep a safe distance from others they could also walk or cycle where this is possible (or appropriate given their age/ability). Pupils who test positive must be kept in isolation until they can be collected by a member of their family or household. In exceptional circumstances, if this is not possible, and the school needs to take responsibility for transporting them home, or if a pupil needs to be	L	 Hillcrest Specific: Parents/Carers should not send children in to school who have received a positive home test or symptomatic Usual procedure for symptomatic child is followed in the event that child attends and advises that test was positive

 transported to a residential setting, you should do one of the following: use a vehicle with a bulkhead or partition that separates the driver and passenger the driver and passenger should maintain 2 metres from each other 	
 For both options: The driver should wear PPE, including a fluid resistant facemask (IIR) which should also be worn by the passenger. The vehicle must be cleaned thoroughly afterwards, in line with government guidance. 	

Further Information

Government/Public Health England Advice: https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus / Coronavirus (COVID-19) asymptomatic testing in schools and colleges / Asymptomatic testing in schools and colleges - GOV.UK Mass asymptomatic testing: schools and colleges Mass asymptomatic testing in specialist settings HSE Advice: https://www.hse.gov.uk/news/coronavirus.htm NHS: <u>NHS Hand Washing Techniques</u> COVID-19 National Testing Programme: "How to Guide" Rapid Testing in Schools and Colleges Clinical Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) Rapid Asymptomatic Testing in Secondary Schools Northumberland Education – links to all Covid testing documentation Schools and Colleges document sharing platform for Rapid Testing DfE coronavirus helpline: 0800 046 8687 Opening hours Monday to Friday 8am to 6pm, Saturday and Sunday 10am to 6pm.

Document History

Item	Nature of change	Date of Update
Staff LFD test is confirmed as positive	A confirmatory PCR test is now required after a positive LFD result.	07/04/2021
Pupil test is confirmed as positive	A confirmatory PCR test is now required after a positive LFD result.	07/04/2021
<u>First issue</u>	n/a	02/03/2021