

Dear parents and carers

Please read this [letter](#) inviting your child to take part in the ONS Schools Infection Survey. This is a national survey that we have signed up to take part in and involves students in two year groups being tested five or six times between now and the end of the year for the Covid-19 virus as well as the presence of any antibodies that might suggest they have had the virus previously. The year groups that have been selected for Lymm High School are Years 8 and 9.

As a school, we felt it important to sign up for this study for two reasons. Firstly, it will help keep everyone safe by allowing us to better understand rates and patterns of infection in the school and, secondly, because we want to exercise our social responsibility to help scientists track the virus properly, which would not be possible if no schools signed up. For the same reasons, we do encourage you to sign your child up.

The letter contains a link to a website allowing you to sign up electronically, which is easy to do. There is also a [parent information sheet](#) that you may wish to read before signing up. We would draw attention to the following points in particular:

- This is entirely voluntary. You do not have to sign up if you do not want to and no child will take part without parents signing up online.
- The tests will be taking place on Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th December and students who sign up will be given instructions about exactly where to go, and when, nearer the time.
- The tests are not uncomfortable or painful to take – e.g. the nasal swab only involves rubbing a soft cotton bud on the inside of the nose; it is not the invasive nasopharyngeal swab that takes a sample from deep into the back of the throat and nose.

Please do contact Mrs Moge (amogey@lymmhigh.org.uk) if you do have any further questions, but please also bear in mind that, at this stage, we do not know any more than is contained in the letter and parent information sheet.

Kind regards
Gwyn Williams

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