



February 1, 2021

Dear Staff Member/Parent/Guardian/Caregiver:

HMS School for Children with Cerebral Palsy takes the health and safety of our staff, students, caregivers, and their families very seriously. HMS School, in collaboration with the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) ACE-IT Project, is pleased to announce that we are now offering participation in a COVID-19 antigen testing program, BinaxNow™ by Abbott Laboratories, at our school.

HMS School is being provided a supply of BinaxNOW™ COVID-19 Antigen Test Cards made available through CHOP from the federal government. All staff, parents, students, and caregivers who are taking part in on-site therapy will be tested weekly through this program.

We will only test with your consent. Your consent will apply for all testing sessions going forward through the end of the 2020/2021 school year. The results of this test will be available to you via text message and email within two (2) hours. You will be called if the result is positive. The HMS COVID-19 Resource Team and school administrator will have access to the results of your BinaxNOW test. At any time, you or your student may decline to participate.

For you or your child to participate in this testing program, your consent is needed. Please complete and sign the BinaxNow™ Permission Slip for your child through your BlueStep FamilyConnect portal. If you need assistance signing up for this feature or with this electronic consent signature process please email: kmonahan@hmsschool.org.

Staff, parents, and caregivers will be emailed a BinaxNow™ Permission Slip to complete and sign. You may scan and return this consent by fax to 215-662- 5159; by email to pmars@hmsschool.org, or by presenting it upon arrival at HMS School.

In closing, HMS School would like to thank you for your support of this new program and our efforts to expand our prevention, detection, and testing of COVID-19 within our school and state. If you have any questions on the program you may reach out to our COVID-19 Resource Officer, Patty Mars RN.

Tom Quinn
President