

19 March 2021

Twice weekly COVID-19 testing at home for students

Dear parent/carer,

I am pleased to report that we have successfully conducted over 5,000 lateral flow tests in school over the last two weeks. As we have completed their first three supervised tests on site at school, students will now move to twice weekly testing at home.

Up to 1 in 3 people who have COVID-19 have no symptoms and could be spreading it without knowing. Regular testing, twice a week, will help stop the virus spreading, keeping your family and friends safer.

We will be sending home COVID-19 testing kits with your child on Friday 19 March. Please make sure your child tests themselves **twice a week**. The first test should be on **MONDAY evening** and the second test should be on **THURSDAY evening**. Your child should continue to test every **MONDAY** and **THURSDAY** until you receive further notice.

Your child will receive a detailed step by step guide about how to conduct the test at home. Please make sure your child follows this guidance carefully. You can also watch a video about home testing by clicking [here](#).

Your child should also **continue testing twice a week, at home, throughout the Easter holidays**. We will be sending home extra kits for the Easter holiday before term ends.

This does not replace testing for those with symptoms. If you have symptoms you must self-isolate immediately, book a PCR test and follow national guidelines.

Reporting results

It is really important that results of test are reported online straight away, even if your child's result is negative or void. It's easy to do this at www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result.

Results can also be reported via telephone by calling 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day, 7am to 11pm.

It is important to keep a note of your child's results and share with school or college as well. Your Pastoral Manager will share a **Google Form** for your child to complete on **Google Classroom**.

Testing for parents, households and bubbles twice a week

A reminder that regular rapid testing is now also available for parents, their households and support or childcare bubbles. The government is encouraging all families to participate in twice weekly testing to help stop the spread.

Parents and other adults in the household can access tests by:

- Ordering tests online www.gov.uk/order-school-household-tests
- Getting an assisted test at work, if it is available
- Attending a test site to get tested (where you will be able to see how to take the test) or pick up tests to do at home.

To find out more on school household testing visit [Households and bubbles of pupils, students and staff of schools and colleges: get rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/households-and-bubbles-of-pupils-students-and-staff-of-schools-and-colleges-get-rapid-lateral-flow-tests)

We continue to encourage everyone to take part in regular Covid-19 testing.

Yours faithfully,



Gerard McKenna
HEADTEACHER