



10 March 2021

Re: Advice to Parents/Carers

Dear Parents/Carers,

As part of the lateral flow testing on campus this morning we have identified a confirmed case of COVID-19 within our Year 11 cohort.

We have informed the Local Authority and Public Health England and our mass testing programme continues for the remainder of this week and students will receive their home-testing kits after their third test.

The tests have extremely low rates of false positives. LFD tests taken on test sites, such as on school and college grounds, do not need a confirmatory PCR test. This is because these tests are done in a controlled environment and trained staff read the results.

If a pupil or student received a supervised school-based LFD test, as part of the rapid asymptomatic testing programme, and it was positive then they and other members of their household must self-isolate. PCR testing is not advised if you have received a positive result from an LFD test at a school or college test site. If a parent was to do this and it returned a negative result, the policy remains that the pupil or student, their close contacts, and other members of their household must still self-isolate.

All positive results from rapid tests undertaken at home do need to be confirmed with a standard PCR test. This is because these tests are not conducted in a controlled environment and will not have trained staff on hand. Following a positive LFD test at home, a confirmatory PCR test should be booked online or by calling 119. Whilst awaiting the PCR result, the pupil or student and their close contacts should self-isolate. If the PCR test is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD test (at home only) and a child can return to school.

Parents/Carers of those students who have been in close contact have received a letter today informing them that their child must stay at home for 10 days from contact date.

Clearly with the situation nationally it highlights the need for us all to ensure we adhere to all the guidance that has been shared and most importantly that students are not sent to school when they may have symptoms or have been in contact with those that have tested positive.

We continue to work closely with the official bodies to ensure our community stays safe and we are able to continue a high quality education to our students.

Yours sincerely,

Will Teece
Headteacher