

16 March 2021

Dear Parent

The majority of students should now have received their third and final lateral flow test in school. The students showed great maturity in the way they conducted these tests and really were a credit to you and the school. All students will now receive home testing kits to continue testing at home.

What are the different types of tests?

The testing we have done and you will now do is for the purpose of detecting asymptomatic cases (those without symptoms) and is known as lateral flow testing. If anyone shows symptoms, they must still self-isolate and book an NHS PCR test - <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> rather than just taking a lateral flow test.

How to test

The tests we will provide are lateral flow tests, near identical to those students used in school last week. Full instructions are provided with the home testing kits, but you will need to support your child to do this. You may find this video useful in guiding you through the process - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9XR8RZxKNo>

When will students receive their home tests?

Lateral flow COVID home testing kits will be provided to students either today or Wednesday (we are expecting a delivery early this week, but will inform you if they are delayed). The kits contain 3 tests, which should last 1 and a half weeks before students need another pack of tests. As it is recommended that self-testing continues throughout the Easter holidays, next week, we will issue students with enough tests to last 3 weeks.

When should students do their home tests?

This week they should complete their first lateral flow test as follows depending on the year group:

- Year 7, 8, 9 & 10 – Wednesday
- Year 11 & 6th form – Thursday

In future weeks, it is suggested these are done on Sunday and Wednesday evening. The test needs to be left for 30 minutes before recording a result, so please factor this time in to your morning routine.

Reporting a test

The result of each test needs to be reported using the NHS Test & Trace self-report website: <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>. You will also need to tell the school the result of each test. Please click on the link below to complete the form for each test:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=mZLfypinuE6tZpGvDONWc8WWokHwnO9Okv5tp3nyLFtUNkxTWjIPME1aTEhSOU8xWFFYU1o4M1RGNy4u>



What do I do if my child gets a positive result?

If the result of any of your tests is positive, you need to do three things:

- Your child must immediately self-isolate along with the whole family and any support bubbles they are part of.
- Inform the school (ideally via school comms).
- Book a confirmatory PCR test - <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

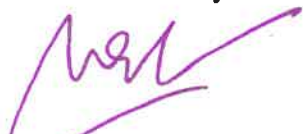
If the result of the PCR test comes back negative, they may end their self-isolation and return to school, so long as they are not showing any symptoms. If the PCR test is positive, the family need to self-isolate for a period of 10 days.

Taking part in testing is voluntary and all students will be able to attend school whether they take part in testing or not.

Thank you once again for your continued support with the measures we are undertaking to navigate this period and keep all within our school community safe.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with the school office if you have any questions.

Yours faithfully



Martyn Henson
Headteacher