

17th March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have really enjoyed welcoming all students back to school over the past week and have been incredibly proud of how the students have conducted themselves on their return and when being tested for COVID-19. Students will now be moving to twice weekly LFD testing at home. This is following the successful completion of their three supervised tests on site at school.

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

This week you should have received 2 COVID-19 testing kits to enable your child to test at home. Please make sure your child tests themselves **twice a week, between 3-5 days apart, in the morning before school if possible and, if not, the evening before.** Your child should also **continue testing twice a week, at home, throughout the Easter school holidays.**

If your child has not been tested at school yet, but you wish to take part in the home testing, then please get in touch with us so that we can arrange a time for them to be tested on site. This will enable us to show them how to conduct the test before beginning home testing. 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 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 also important to keep a note of your child's results and ensure that you inform school if your child receives a positive result so that we can advise you on the next steps.

Testing for parents, households and bubbles twice a week

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:

- 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.
- Collecting test kits: You can collect 2 packs of home test kits at a local collection point. Each pack contains 7 tests and anyone aged 18 or over can collect them. Most collection points are open from 1.30pm to 7pm; you do not need to make an appointment. Please do not visit a collection point outside opening hours, as it may be used to test people with coronavirus symptoms outside these times. You can find your nearest using the following link: <https://find-covid-19-rapid-test-sites.maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/>. You can check online if the location is open or busy before you go.

- Ordering tests online: If you cannot get tested at your workplace or are unable to go to a test site or collect test kits, you can order a home test kit online. Please do not order online if you can get a test through other methods. This frees up home delivery for those who need it most. You can order testing kits using the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

To find out more on school household testing visit <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>.

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

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mat Baldwin', followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Mr Matthew Baldwin
Executive Head Teacher