

15 March 2021

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Dear Parents/Carers and Students

Covid-19 Home Testing Programme

This letter has further details for those students taking part in the Covid-19 Lateral Flow Home Testing Programme from week commencing Monday 22 March 2021. These tests help to make sure the school environment is safer for everyone.

Please ensure you have completed the form by Wednesday 17 March 2021 about whether you would like a Home Testing Kit sent home for you to administer on your child:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=KfZcuFRn20m4q2UtRk2ofXq6dY0qVPBMm3AlmbY5zptURUo2MUUpOU0IGQTYrR1dKS1NWNldGOEpQWC4u>

When you will get your home test kits and when you should take the tests.

- We will send home tests with your child on Friday 19 March 2021 – please make sure they are taken out of bags.
- Students will be given further test kits when the previous one has run out.
- Tests are free of charge. Students will receive a pack of 7 tests in a box with a leaflet on how to take the test and report the results.
- We would like them to take their tests before school on Monday and Thursday.
- The first test should start from Monday 22 March 2021.
- Make sure you have enough time to do the test before coming to school. Preferably this would be in the morning before going into school. However, we understand that for some people this may be challenging. Therefore, tests can be taken the evening before school. (e.g. Sunday and Wednesday evenings).
- Students should test through the Easter holidays.

Taking the test

- A video showing how to take the test can be found here:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9XR8RZxKNo&list=PLvaBZskxS7tzQYIVg7lwH5uxAD9UrSzGJ&index=1>
- General guidance can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-self-test-help>
- There is no need to keep used test equipment after the test result has been reported. You can put it in your normal bin (household waste).
- This does not replace symptomatic testing. If you have symptoms, you should self-isolate immediately, book a PCR test and follow national guidelines. You can order your PCR test here:
<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

What should you do after the home test?

Positive result

- If the home test result is **positive: you, your household, any support bubbles you are part of** should self-isolate immediately in line with NHS Test and Trace guidance for 10 days. You also need to order a confirmatory PCR test using this link: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>



CEO:
David Horn
Headteacher:
Beth McPhail
Chair of Academy Trustees:
John Winkley

- You need to report your result to both NHS Test and Trace: <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result> and school using this link:
<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=KfZcuFRn20m4q2UtRk2ofXq6dY0qVPBMm3AlmbY5zptUNERHM1kzTExKTVFOWEdHUU9W0E9JQTY0Sy4u>

Void or negative result

- If the result of the test is **unclear (void)** you should do another test.
- **Negative and void results** should be reported to both <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result> and school via this link:
<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=KfZcuFRn20m4q2UtRk2ofXq6dY0qVPBMm3AlmbY5zptUNERHM1kzTExKTVFOWEdHUU9W0E9JQTY0Sy4u>
- A negative result does not guarantee that you are not carrying the virus. So, you should continue to follow social distancing, and other measures to reduce transmission such as wearing a face mask and regularly washing your hands and observing social distancing.
- If you or anyone in your household gets symptoms of the virus you should follow national guidelines on self-isolation and testing: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

Why take part?

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

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns about home testing.

Thank you for your support.

Kind regards



Beth McPhail
Headteacher

Frequently Asked Questions

Do I need to give consent?

- Students and parents do not give written consent to take part in the home testing programme. Please read the information below on how personal information and test results are shared and the privacy notice.

Can my child take the test themselves?

- We recommend that you administer the test on your child unless you believe that they can do it adequately themselves with your supervision.
- If an accident or injury happens whilst using the test kit, please seek medical care by calling 111 (or 999 if it is an emergency). Please also report what happened using this website: <https://coronavirus-yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk/>

What does it mean if my child has a positive result?

- If your child has a positive antigen LFD test result they, their household and any support bubbles they are part of should self-isolate immediately in line with NHS Test and Trace guidance for 10 days. You need to report your result to both NHS Test and Trace: <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result> and school using this link: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=KfZcuFRn20m4q2UtRk2ofXq6dY0qVPBMm3AlmbY5zptUNERHM1kzTExKTVFOWEdHUU9WOE9JQTY0Sy4u>
- You should order a confirmatory PCR test if you are testing at home (confirmatory PCR tests are not needed if the test was conducted at the Asymptomatic Test Site at school. You can book a PCR test here: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

What does it mean if my child has a negative result?

- A negative result does not guarantee that your child is not carrying the virus. So, you should continue to follow social distancing, and other measures to reduce transmission such as wearing a face mask and regularly washing your hands.

Can I or someone else in my household use a test kit sent home from school?

- No, however whole families and households with primary school, secondary school, and college age children, including childcare and support bubbles, will be able to test themselves twice every week from home. This testing can be accessed through the following channels:
 - Get a rapid test at work, through workplace testing. Ask your employer for more information.
 - attend 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 (you can find your nearest test site via the postcode checker www.gov.uk/find-covid-19-lateral-flow-test-site or check your local council website)
 - collect tests to do at home, find your nearest collection site <https://find-covid-19-rapid-test-sites.maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/>
- If these options are not possible, there will be a supply of rapid tests for order online for people who need them the most. More information can be found on www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests.
- There is more information available about testing for households and bubbles of students here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>



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