

Date: 16.03.2021

Update on twice weekly COVID-19 testing at home for students

Dear parent/carer,

At the end of this week, students will be moving to twice weekly, rapid COVID-19 testing at home. This is following their first three supervised tests on site at school/college.

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 spreading, keeping your family and friends safer.

We will be sending home COVID-19 testing kits with your child from March 17th after the children have had their 3rd lateral flow test in school. Please make sure your child tests themselves, **twice a week. This should be completed on a Sunday and Wednesday evening.**

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

If you want to access a “how to video” on how to test at home, please follow the link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvaBZskxS7tzQYIVg7lwH5uxAD9UrSzGJ>

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 important to keep a note of your child's results and share with school, if your child's test records a positive result.

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 \(www.gov.uk\)](http://Households and bubbles of pupils, students and staff of schools and colleges: get rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk))

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

Yours faithfully,

Mr Nicholson
Head of Secondary