



17 March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Home Testing for Covid-19 – Information for Students**

Further to my letter of 16 March, we are pleased to be able to now offer home testing kits for students following over 3,500 tests in school.

Up to one in three people who have Covid-19 can spread the virus without knowing because they have no symptoms. To reduce the spread of the virus, we need to identify those individuals. We can do this by carrying out tests at home twice every week, 3-5 days apart.

#### **Taking test kits home**

- Students will have been given their home test kits from their form tutors in Period 5 today.
- **We would like students to take their tests before school on Thursday 18 March 2021.**
- Students will be given two packs of 3 tests in a box with a separate leaflet on how to take the test and report the results. **This information has also been emailed out to students via their school Gmail accounts.**

#### **Taking the test**

- Students should take the test two times every week.
- Please make sure your child has enough time to do the test before going 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 if needed. You need to report test results.
- [Help and support is available](#), including instructions in different languages on how to test and report the results and a video showing students how [to take the test](#).
- This does not replace symptomatic testing. If your child has symptoms, they should self-isolate immediately, book a PCR test and follow national guidelines.

#### **Can students take the test themselves?**

- Students aged 18 and over should do the test themselves and report the result, with help if they need it.
- Students aged 12-17 should do the test themselves with adult supervision. The adult may help the child to take the test if they need support.
- Students aged 11 must be tested by an adult and the adult must report the result

### You need to report each test result

- The result of each test needs to be reported using the NHS Test and Trace self-report website: <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>.
- You will also need to tell the school if your child has a positive result from a test. You **must** contact the school on 02476 617231 and ask for Miss Walsh in the Attendance Team.

### Why take part

- Taking part in testing is voluntary and students will be able to attend school whether they take part in testing or not.
- I am strongly encouraging all students to take part. Testing at home will allow us to reduce the spread of the virus.

Please contact Miss Walsh or Miss Seth if you have any questions or concerns about home testing.

Thank you for your support.

Yours faithfully



Mr M Everett  
Principal