



March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Up to one in three people who have COVID-19 can spread the virus without knowing. This is because they have no symptoms. To reduce the spread of the virus, we need to identify those individuals. We can do this in schools / colleges by carrying out tests at home twice every week, 3-4 days apart.

The Government has recently announced that all secondary and college aged students will be offered tests to make the return to school / college safer for everyone.

Testing students at home

Students will be issued their home test kits from Wednesday 17th March.

We would like the students to take their tests on a Sunday evening before returning to school and the second test on Wednesday evenings.

You will also need to tell the school the result of each test via Test register. You will receive an email reminder each day of testing with a link to use this service for uploading results.

Tests are free of charge. Students will receive a pack of 3 or 7 tests in a box with a leaflet on how to take the test and report the results to the NHS.

Taking the test

Students should take the test, before coming into school, twice a week. We will give students a leaflet with instructions on how to do the test with the kit.

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.

What should you do after the test?

If anyone tests **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 need to report your result to both NHS Test and Trace and your school / college.

If the result of the test is **unclear (void)** you should do another test.

Negative and void results should be reported to both NHS Test and Trace and school.

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](#).

You need to report each test result

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 via Test register.

Why take part

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

I am strongly encouraging all students to take part. Testing at home will allow your child and other students to attend school as safely as possible.

Please contact the school office, if you have any questions or concerns about home testing.

Thank you for your support.



Mr P Frith
Headteacher