

17th March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I am pleased to let you know the in-school testing programme we have put in place for the first two weeks back has run very smoothly. The purpose of these tests has been to identify staff and students who have COVID-19 but are asymptomatic. This in turn helps to reduce the spread of the virus and keeps everyone in school and at home as safe as possible. Now we have completed three in-school tests, students will move to home testing - carrying out tests at home twice every week, 3-4 days apart. Staff are already doing the same.

Students will be able to collect their home testing kits from their form tutor on Wednesday 17th March in afternoon registration to take home. Form tutors will continue to resupply these tests once they are completed.

Your child will be given a pack of three tests in a box with a separate leaflet on how to take the test and report the results. We have also shared a video of a student modelling how to complete the test on our Facebook page and will be showing students as part of Science lessons on Thursday too.

We would then like your child to take a test every Thursday and Sunday night, starting on Thursday 18th March. Parents will then need to report all results, positive and negative, via the NHS Test and Trace self-report website: <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>. In addition, all result must be recorded via our school platform <https://forms.office.com/r/8daMHaEz3p> and reported to the school office.

If anyone tests positive you, your household, and any support bubbles you are part of should self-isolate immediately in line with NHS Test and Trace guidance for 10 days and order a confirmatory PCR test. **Do not send your child into school, until they have the negative results from a follow-up PCR test.**

If the result of the test is **unclear (void)** you will need to do another test. **Negative and void results** should also be reported to both [NHS Test & Trace](#) and our school recording platform.

A negative result does not guarantee that your child is not carrying the virus. So, your child should continue to follow other measures to reduce transmission, including wearing a face mask, regularly washing your hands, observing social distancing and following all the rules in place in school.

If your child has symptoms of COVID-19 then they should not come into school, even if they have had a negative result from a home test. You will need to arrange a PCR test and self-isolate for 10 days or until a negative PCR test result is confirmed, which will then need to be shared with school via the main office.

Tests should be carried out by students themselves but with adult supervision. Parents will be expected to record the results. We will email a reminder prior to each test as well an e-version of the two links, if you have changed email addresses recently or we don't have this contact information please contact the school office to update this.

We strongly encourage all students to take the test and support the measures we are putting in place around home testing.

If you have any questions, please contact the school office. Thank you for your help and support.

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. E. Hailwood', written in a cursive style.

Tom Hailwood
Head of Schools