

26 February 2021

Dear Parent or Carer

NHS Test and Trace: COVID-19 Testing for Students

Following the announcement that there will be a wider reopening of schools and colleges from 8 March, the government has confirmed its plans for regular testing for those without coronavirus symptoms.

We will be looking to test all staff and students from Year 7 to Y13 as they return following this latest period of lockdown using Lateral Flow Device (LFD) tests. Along with the other protective measures we are taking, testing will allow us to work in as safe an environment as possible. Up to one third of people who have coronavirus are asymptomatic. By testing regularly we will help to reduce the spread in school and college settings through asymptomatic transmission. I am therefore strongly encouraging those returning to school to be tested.

Students will be asked to test three times in the first two weeks of their return to school under our supervision. Tests will be taken 3 to 5 days apart. From then on, students will receive home test kits and will be asked to test themselves twice a week from home and to log and report their results.

The first test will be conducted at one of three sites, depending on your location. It will take place on Monday 8 March and then your child should return home. If the test is negative, your child can return to school on Tuesday 9 March. We will then arrange for the second and third tests to be conducted in school.

Please complete the Google Form in the link below by **Monday 1 March** and we will then inform you of your child's local testing site and the time slot for them to arrive to be tested.

[CONSENT FORM](#)

We will continue to run a small testing site at school so that those students who are unable or do not wish to test themselves at home are able to be tested regularly.

Testing is voluntary. Students who decline to participate can still attend school if not symptomatic. If they begin to show symptoms, they should get tested and follow the usual national guidelines on self-isolation.

I will send you further information on the home testing kits at a later date.

Yours faithfully

NEIL RODGERS
Executive Headteacher

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