



26<sup>th</sup> March 2021

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

Dear Parent/Carer

As you will know, up to 1 in 3 people who have COVID-19 have no symptoms and could be spreading it without knowing. This is why getting into a regular habit of testing twice a week will help stop the virus spreading, keeping your family and friends safer and helping to protect the wider school community.

Please make sure you test your child **twice a week 3-5 days apart**, ideally in **the evening on Wednesdays and Sundays if possible**. If not, the **morning before school on Mondays and Thursdays**, allowing sufficient time for the test to develop before they come to school.

The kits are provided to us free of charge on the condition that if you accept a home test kit, you consent to use it and report the results to NHS Track & Trace <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result> and the school.

So far, approximately 50% of the expected test results have been reported back to school. It is important that you let us know the result by using the easy-to-use Microsoft form <https://forms.office.com/r/EBHAACHmQF>.

Your child should also **continue testing twice a week, at home, throughout the Easter school holidays**. We will be sending home additional COVID-19 testing kits with your child for the Easter holiday before term ends, from the week commencing 29<sup>th</sup> March.

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. **You should not use an LFD test for this purpose.**

### Further information on reporting results

It is really important that results of tests 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](http://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 to share them with the school as well via this form each and every time you conduct a test at home:

<https://forms.office.com/r/EBHAACHmQF>

## 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](https://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 \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/households-and-bubbles-of-pupils-students-and-staff-of-schools-and-colleges-get-rapid-lateral-flow-tests)

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

Yours sincerely

Matthew Abbott  
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