

29th March 2021

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

Dear parent/carer,

Thank you for your support in the home testing; in conducting the tests and reporting the results to both the NHS and ourselves.

As you are aware, up to 1 in 3 people who have COVID-19 have no symptoms and could be spreading it without knowing. Getting into a regular habit of testing twice a week will help stop the virus spreading, keeping your family and friends safer.

We have been sending home COVID-19 testing kits with your child since they completed their third on-site test. Your child should **continue testing twice a week, at home, throughout the Easter school holidays**. We will be sending home extra kits for Easter holiday before term ends.

Upon return to school, please make sure your child tests themselves **twice a week 3-5 days apart, in the morning (Monday/Thursday) before school if possible and, if not, the evening before**. If your child has not been tested at school yet, then please get in touch with us so that we can arrange a time for them to be tested on site, before beginning home testing. You will need to complete the on-line consent form using the following link: <https://forms.gle/H3gysC3LEE1Vo5a56>

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.

Reporting results

It is really important that results of any test 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.

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 continue to share with us. The link to report home tests results is on our website and can be found at <https://www.deferrers.com/reporttest>

In addition to this if a student test is positive from any type of test it is **essential** that you report this to the covidpositivecase@deferrers.com email immediately providing the following information:

- Child's name
- Form/Teaching group
- Date of test
- Date of positive LFD result
- Date last in the academy
- Best contact number

Positive LFD Home Test

You should order a confirmatory PCR test **if you test positive at home** by using this link; <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>. Alternatively you can call 119 to book a test. In addition, all members of the household and identified close contacts should self isolate until this result is received. If the PCR test is negative, it overrides the home LFD self-test and a child can return to school and members of the household and identified close contacts can resume daily activities.

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
- 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.

Thank you for your continued support, I wish you a lovely Easter.

Yours sincerely



Mrs K D Hardy
Principal