

Dear Parents and Carers

Regarding recent news about Lateral Flow Tests: the government has confirmed that twice weekly testing using rapid lateral flow tests will be given for free to all families and households with primary, secondary school and college aged children and young people, including childcare and support bubbles, to help find more COVID-19 cases and break chains of transmission, another safety measure.

Primary school children will not be regularly asymptotically tested, unlike Secondary aged children, due to low levels of transmission between younger aged children but they will continue to need to come forward for normal PCR tests if they have any symptoms at all just as they have done previously.

This testing is something that the Government are keen to encourage but it is not mandatory. Please find link below, to order tests online should you wish to use it, or visit the centres that will distribute the tests:

<https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

*Schools, nurseries and colleges testing: order coronavirus (COVID-19) rapid lateral flow home test kits*

*If you are a member of a household, childcare bubble of a pupil, student or staff of a school, nursery or college, you can get a twice-weekly test kit:*

- *through your employer if they offer testing to employees*
- *at a local test site*
- *by collecting a home test kit from a test site*
- *by ordering a home test kit online*

### **What twice-weekly testing involves**

*You will be asked to:*

- *take a test twice a week (every 3 or 4 days apart)*
- *report every result to NHS Test and Trace on the same day you take the test*

*[Report your test result online](#) or by calling 119.*

*If anyone tests positive or gets coronavirus symptoms, they should:*

- *self-isolate immediately*
- *get a PCR test to confirm the result*
- *follow the [stay at home guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection](#)*

**This is by no means an instruction from school asking you to order the LFD tests, however we feel it is important to share with our school community that there is an option to order LFD tests for your family should you wish to do so.**

Yours sincerely

Mr Ross