

Dear Parent/Carer

Home Testing

Over the past week, there has been an increase of positive COVID-19 cases in the local area, a reminder that sadly we are not through the pandemic yet.

I am therefore writing to remind parents about the process for lateral flow testing. The government has asked that schools continue to issue tests to staff and students to enable them to test twice a week and this has been done since March via tutors for students. Please refamiliarise yourself of the procedures for the lateral flow testing and reporting, detailed below.

Simple and quick tests using Antigen Lateral Flow Devices (LFD) enable the rapid testing of staff and secondary age students, from their home, without the need for a laboratory. All participation in the testing is voluntary.

How to take a test

For guidance on carrying out the test please refer to the step-by- step guide for COVID-19 self-testing issue date 2nd March 2021. Or refer to the guidance on the Government website <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-self-test-help>

You will need to understand the testing process and read the privacy notice which can be found on the school website.

<https://www.thehambleschool.co.uk/policies-procedures>

If you choose to participate in the home testing you are committing to self-administering the test and reporting your results via the NHS Test and Trace digital platform and the schools track and trace system.

Before taking the test please do the following:

1. Read the privacy notice to understand what will happen with your data.
2. Read the copy of 'Your step-by-step guide for COVID-19 self-testing document given to your child

Reporting the test results

You are required to report the results every time you take a test.

This is the link to report a COVID-19 rapid lateral flow test result to the NHS.

www.thehambleschool.co.uk

T: 023 8045 2105 • general@thehambleschool.co.uk • twitter.com/TheHambleSchool

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<https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>

Education settings are not able to view the results that their students have uploaded to the online service. Therefore, you will need to complete the following online form after every test regardless of the results of the test; positive, negative or void.

<https://tinyurl.com/THSHomeTestingResults>

You **MUST** record the outcomes on both the NHS website and the school tracker.

How will the tests be given out?

The testing kits will be given out to students in tutor time. They will need to sign to confirm they have received their testing kit.

For home testing anyone aged 11 must ensure the test is administered by an adult, and anyone aged 12-17 should be supervised by an adult but can swab themselves.

If there is a clinical incident which leads to or has potential for harm, participants are advised to report it on <https://coronavirus-yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk>

This is not for seeking immediate medical care. Medical care should be sought through the usual route of contacting 111 or 999.

Tests at home do not require written medical consent, consent is given by completing the test.

I hope the information outlined in this letter is useful and outlines the basics for the home testing. The Government has also announced that families with children attending school are now able to obtain Lateral Flow Tests. Please use the following link for guidance on the testing and how to obtain a Lateral Flow Test.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

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

If there are any issues with testing at home related to the administration of the test please contact your child's Head of Year in the first instance.

For your information Miss Cambridge is the Covid Coordinator and Mrs Rogerson is the Registration Assistant.

Yours faithfully



Mr A Govan
Headteacher

If, at any time, you should require special arrangements to be made when visiting the school and/or in order to participate fully in supporting your child at school (e.g. an accessible venue for meetings, if you are a wheelchair user, assistance with translation of documents or enlarged copies of communications etc.), please do not hesitate to let us know.