

13 December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

## **Covid-19 Asymptomatic Testing and Return to School in January 2022**

The Department for Education has published updated guidance about the actions that schools should take to reduce the risk of transmission of coronavirus (Covid-19). This includes public health advice, endorsed by Public Health England (PHE).

Asymptomatic testing remains important in reducing the risk of transmission of infection within schools. We continue to encourage students and staff to carry out home lateral flow tests twice per week, and we will continue to do this and provide testing kits for students during term time. If you or your family require Covid testing kits, they are available for collection from our school reception or are available for collection from local community venues and pharmacies.

On our return in January, at the start of the New Year, schools have been asked to carry out Lateral Flow Device (LFD) Covid testing for students, with a staggered start to the term to reduce mixing of potential cases. We are now able to provide you with more details regarding the testing process.

### **Tuesday 4 January 2022**

**We are offering students the opportunity to be tested in the academy Tuesday 4 January 2022 and strongly encourage this.**

**To provide consent for your child to attend school for Covid-19 testing on this date, please complete this form: <https://forms.gle/RDGhqgAbpdY9eyko8> as soon as possible.** We have already shared this link with you earlier last week. Please be aware the deadline for giving consent via this form is tomorrow, Tuesday 14 December at 12noon.

Students with consent to test will be invited in to the academy at specific times Tuesday 4 January:

- Year 7 - 9.00-10.00am
- Year 8 - 10.00-11.00am
- Year 9 - 11.00-12.00am
- Year 10 - 12.30-1.30pm
- Year 11 - 1.30-2.30pm

**All students will have access to work on GoogleClassroom from home on Tuesday 4 January 2022 and will be expected to join an assembly with their year group via GoogleClassroom.**

**Only students who are scheduled to attend for Covid-19 testing should attend school at the above times on Tuesday 4 January.**

### **Wednesday 5 January 2022**

**All students should return to school on Wednesday 5 January by 8.20am. The normal school timetable resumes.**

If you do not consent to on site testing for your child, we would encourage you to collect home testing kits at a community venue or pharmacy to enable them to test at home, prior to their return. We strongly encourage ALL students to take a Covid-19 test prior to their return to the academy to help minimise the risk of transmission and safeguard students and staff.

**If your child has had Covid after 6 October 2021, then please do not attend testing in school as they may get a false positive result.**

Please note that Covid testing remains a voluntary process.

Many thanks for your ongoing support during this challenging time.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Wappat', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Andrew Wappat  
Principal