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Covid-19 Testing at Home using Lateral Flow Tests

Dear Parent/Carer

Up to one in three people who have COVID-19 can spread the virus without knowing. This is because they have no symptoms – they are asymptomatic. To reduce the spread of the virus, we need to identify those individuals. We can do this in Carlton Bolling by carrying out tests at home twice every week, 3-4 days apart.

The Government has recently announced that all secondary and college aged students will be offered tests to make the return to Carlton Bolling safer for everyone.

Testing students at home

School will distribute the home testing kits. We will be distributing ours this week.

We would like the students to take their tests before school on Wednesdays and Sundays.

You will also need to tell Carlton Bolling the result of tests if they are positive. **THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT.** It will enable us to identify any close contacts in school.

You must report the results of positive, negative or void tests onto the NHS website at <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>

Tests are free of charge. Students will receive a pack of tests in a box with a leaflet on how to take the test and report the results.

Make sure you have enough time to do the test before going to school. Preferably this would be in the morning before going into school/college. However, we understand that for some people this may be challenging. Therefore, tests can be taken the evening before school if needed. You need to report test results yourself onto the NHS database (details are in the leaflet) .

Taking the test

Students should take the test, before coming into school twice a week. We will give students a leaflet with instructions on how to do the test with the kit. There is also a useful video to show you how to take the test <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9XR8RZxKNo>

There is no need to keep used test equipment after the test result has been reported. You can put it in your normal bin (household waste).

This does not replace symptomatic testing. If you have symptoms, you should self- isolate immediately, book a PCR test via 119 or on the nhs covid 19 website and follow national guidelines.

Headteacher: Jane Girt

What should you do after the test?

If anyone tests positive you, your household, any support bubbles you are part of should self-isolate immediately in line with NHS Test and Trace guidance for 10 days.

You need to report your Positive result to both NHS Test and Trace website <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result> and Carlton Bolling.

You should order a confirmatory PCR test if you are testing at home.

If the result of the test is unclear (void) you should do another test.

Negative and void results should be reported to both NHS Test & Trace <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>

A negative result does not guarantee that you are not carrying the virus. So, you should continue to follow social distancing, and other measures to reduce transmission such as wearing a face mask and regularly washing your hands and observing social distancing.

If you or anyone in your household gets symptoms of the virus you should follow national guidelines on self-isolation and testing.

You need to report Test results

The result of each test needs to be reported using the NHS Test & Trace self-report website: <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>.

You will also need to tell Carlton Bolling the result of POSITIVE test results

Taking part in testing is voluntary and all students will be able to attend school whether they take part in testing or not.

I am strongly encouraging all students to take part. Testing at home will allow your child and other students to attend school as safely as possible.

Please contact your childs' Head of Year if you have any questions or concerns about home testing.

Thank you for your support.



Mrs J Girt

Head of School