

March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer/Pupil,

HOME TESTING

As you may be aware, up to one in three people who have COVID-19 can spread the virus without knowing as they may be asymptomatic. To reduce the spread of the virus, we therefore need to identify any asymptomatic cases. To this end, the Government has provided home tests for all secondary pupils.

Testing students at home

We recently received the home test kits and are now distributing them to the pupils. They are being asked to take 2 tests each week, 3-4 days apart.

Tests are free of charge. Pupils will receive 2 packs of 3 tests with a leaflet on how to take the test and report the results.

Please make sure pupils have enough time to do the test, preferably this would be in the morning before going into school however we understand that for some people this may be challenging. Therefore, tests can be taken the evening before school if needed.

Taking the test

Pupils are provided with a leaflet with instructions on how to do the test with the kit. There is also a useful YouTube video to show you how to take the test on the school website or via the link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvaBZskxS7tzQYIVg7lwH5uxAD9UrSzGJ>

(Step by step guide to COVID-19 self-testing issued by the Department of Health and Social Care)

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

Please note: this does not replace symptomatic testing. If you have symptoms, you should self-isolate immediately, book a PCR test and follow national guidelines.

What should you do after the test?

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

You should order a confirmatory PCR test if you are testing at home (confirmatory PCR tests are not needed if the test was conducted at the Asymptomatic Test Site at School/college).



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

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.

Reporting test results

You need to report your result (including negative and void results) to both **NHS Test and Trace** and to **Weobley High School**.

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

Weobley High School: Please inform the school of the result of each test on the online form which can be accessed via this link: <https://forms.gle/fcNMXN4UAdikZ6xV6>

Please Note: This letter, including these live links, is also on the school website for your convenience.

Why take part?

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

All pupils are strongly encouraged to take part. Testing at home will allow your child and other pupils to attend school as safely as possible.

Please contact Mr Nicholas, our COVID Coordinator, if you have any questions or concerns about home testing.

Thank you for your support.

Dean Williams