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Principal: **Mrs Anne Davis**

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Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to give you more details about the COVID Lateral Flow testing. We have now finished on-site COVID testing and our test site will no longer be operational.

Testing for students will now move to self-testing at home using a Lateral Flow Device. As a reminder, testing is voluntary and this is part of the rapid testing strategy to reduce transmission of COVID in asymptomatic infection only. This does not replace the guidance for people with any of the main symptoms such as a high temperature, a new and continuous cough or a loss of sense of taste and/or smell.

If your daughter/son has any of these symptoms of COVID then they must self isolate and you should book a PCR test via

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19> or by calling 119.

All students will be issued with two boxes of LFD tests, one box with 7 tests and one box with 3 tests. Students will also be given a leaflet with detailed guidance on how to carry out LFD testing at home.

If the testing box already contains an information leaflet please discard this and use the one given out separately.

It is a requirement for any test taken to be recorded and uploaded on to the NHS Track and Trace system. Details of how to do this are in the leaflet that will be issued to students with the test kits.

Students will need to take a test twice a week, 3-4 days apart. We recommend that students test before coming to school on Monday morning and then again before school on Thursday

morning. We understand that for some people this may be challenging, therefore, tests can be taken Sunday evening and Wednesday evening if needed.

Once the test has been taken the results will need to be reported to both NHS Track and Trace and to DSTC

NHS Track and Trace reporting = <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>

DSTC COVID Home Testing reporting = <https://forms.gle/YLh869Y8eoXKAdR69>

Details of home testing can be found in the Frequently Asked Questions sent out with this letter. Help and support is available, including step by step videos of how to take the test (found here

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

instructions in different languages on how to test and report the results (found here

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-self-test-help>).

Once a test has been used and reported there is no need to keep the materials, you can put it in your normal bin (household waste) to be disposed of.

As well as the Frequently Asked Questions published by the Government, I have attached the privacy notice for more details about how your information will be used.

Please note that testing at home does not override the key control measures to reduce the spread of COVID. Regular hand washing, maintaining social distancing and wearing a face covering are still the key elements to reducing transmission of the virus and these control measures will continue in school, where practicable.

Thank you for your continued support

Yours sincerely



Mrs A Davis

Principal