

COCKBURN SCHOOL

Specialist status in the Performing Arts



Executive Headteacher Mr D Gurney BA (Hons) / NPQH / NLE
Head of School Mr R Dixon BSc (Hons) / NPQH

16th March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

RE: STUDENT COVID-19 HOME TESTING KITS

Along with the other protective measures we are taking, these tests will help staff and students to remain in the school safely. Up to one third of people who have coronavirus experience no symptoms. By testing we will help to stop the virus spread and help to keep our school open as safely as possible. It is not compulsory to take these tests but the Government advises that effective testing will help to stop the virus spreading. Therefore, we **strongly advise** that your child uses the home testing kits and that they take these tests twice per week.

All students are invited to collect home testing kits. This includes students whose parents/carers gave consent for school-based testing and also students who did not have consent. We understand that each child has individual needs. Many children will adapt to testing becoming part of their routine whilst others will find it more challenging. Taking part in testing is voluntary and all children will be able to attend school whether they take part or not. We hope that the option to take the test in the morning or the evening will support families to test at home.

The dates that each year group will be able to collect home testing kits:

Tuesday 16th March: Year 7 and Year 8 at the end of their school day.

Wednesday 17th March: Year 9, Year 10 and Year 11 at the end of their school day.

Tests are free of charge. Your child will receive 2 x pack of 3 tests in a box with a leaflet on how to take the test and report the results.

Taking the test

Your child should take the test twice a week, before coming into school or the night before. A leaflet giving instructions on how to do the test will be given with the test kit. There is also a useful video to show you how to take the test [here](#).

We would like students to take their tests on Monday morning (or Sunday evening) and Thursday morning (or Wednesday evening).

Please note that it takes 30 minutes before the test shows the results so please ensure you have the test result in good time before your child leaves for school.

Help and support is available, including instructions in different languages on how to test and report the results and a video showing you how to take the test.

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 and follow national guidelines.

What should you do after the LFD 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 need to report your result to both NHS Test & Trace and the school.
Please notify the NHS using [THIS LINK](#).

Please notify the school of your result by using [THIS LINK](#).

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 need to be reported to both NHS Test & Trace and the school.

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, regularly washing your hands and observing social distancing.

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

You need to report each test result

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

Please notify the school of your result by using [THIS LINK](#).

I would like to thank you, once again, for your continued support and patience during this unprecedented time. I am delighted to have welcomed your child back into our school building.

Yours sincerely,



Mr R Dixon
Head of School

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