

Sunday 21st February

Dear Parents

Lateral Flow Testing – Students on site this week

I hope you all had an enjoyable half term. I am writing to confirm that we will continue to test all students using Lateral Flow Testing, (LFT) this term.

There has not been any government guidance for secondary students returning before the 8th March but we have decided to test all secondary **students twice** in their first week back after half term. We believe that this will make the school as safe as possible for staff and students. This will mean that on Monday 22nd February all students whose parents have given consent will be tested **before their school day starts**.

We will organise for the test to be taken as soon as your child arrives at school on Monday. **He/she will then be kept socially distanced until the result is known.** This will mean that there is no risk of any identified close contacts. Please can you talk to your child to reinforce the importance of keeping sensible social distancing?

Unfortunately, if your child does test positive they will have to **self-isolate for 10 days**. For your peace of mind we will allow students to use their mobile phones to contact you as soon as they know the result of the test. All testing should have been completed by 10.15 am and results known by 11.30 am.

As you know we have had very few positive results since using the LFTs. I would hope that this would continue this term. We will test all students twice this week and then will continue with weekly testing until schools return fully.

I realise this communication only affects students who are attending school and I apologise if this letter does not affect you.

We are able to offer regular LFTs as the numbers on site are relatively low; we will not be able to continue this when school fully returns. We are still not sure of the plans for this. On Monday, we hope to have more information and I will update you as soon as possible.

I am pleased to confirm that we will also be continuing to conduct LFTs on all staff at school twice weekly.

Kind regards



Gary Wakefield
Vice Principal

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