

## **Covid-19 Home Testing**

Dear parent/carer

Students will shortly be moving to twice weekly, rapid COVID-19 testing at home. This is following their first three supervised tests on site at school.

Up to 1 in 3 people who have COVID-19 have no symptoms and could be spreading it without knowing. Getting into a regular habit of testing twice a week will help stop the virus spreading, keeping your family and friends safer.

**Students are being issued with their home test kits this week. On Tuesday students in Years 11, 12 & 13, on Wednesday students in Years 9 & 10 and on Thursday students in Years 7 & 8. If a student has not completed their third test they will be issued with their kit at their third test.**

Please make sure your child tests themselves twice a week 3-5 days apart, allowing at least 30 minutes for the test to develop, in the morning before school if possible and, if not, the evening before. We would suggest every Sunday and Wednesday.

Your child should also continue testing twice a week, at home, throughout the Easter school holidays. With a test being carried out on the morning (or the evening before) of Tuesday 13 April before returning to school after the Easter break.

If your child has not been tested at school yet, then please get in touch with us so that we can arrange a time for them to be tested on site, before beginning home testing.

This does not replace testing for those with symptoms. If your child or a member of your family has symptoms they must self-isolate immediately, book a PCR test and follow national guidelines.

### **Reporting results**

It is really important that results of tests are reported online straight away, even if your child's result is negative or void. It's easy to do at [www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result](http://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result).

Results can also be reported via telephone by calling 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day, 7am to 11pm.

It is important to keep a note of your child's results and share with school any positive results.

### **Testing for parents, households and bubbles twice a week**

A reminder that regular rapid testing is now also available for parents, their households and support or childcare bubbles. The government is encouraging all families to participate in twice weekly testing to help stop the spread.

Parents and other adults in the household can access tests by:

- Ordering tests online [www.gov.uk/order-school-household-tests](http://www.gov.uk/order-school-household-tests)
- Getting an assisted test at work, if it is available

- Attending a test site to get tested (where you will be able to see how to take the test) or pick up tests to do at home.

To find out more on school household testing visit [Households and bubbles of pupils, students and staff of schools and colleges: get rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

To accommodate the collection of the home testing kits for parents, their households and support or childcare bubbles, the opening hours of the symptoms-only testing centres in Wirral have changed. Symptoms-only testing centres at [Birkenhead](#), [Bebington](#), [Liscard](#) and [Heswall](#) will now operate at the following times every day:

- 8am to 12 noon - available to anyone with symptoms to get tested. You can walk-in or book at [www.wirral.gov.uk/test](http://www.wirral.gov.uk/test)
- 12noon to 1.30pm - CLOSED
- 1.30pm to 7pm - collection point for symptom-free home testing kits only

We continue to encourage everyone to take part in regular Covid-19 testing. Please click here for answers to some [frequently asked questions](#).

Thank you for your support.

**Mr S Gray**  
**Headteacher**