

18 December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

### Rapid flow testing and week beginning 4 January

To support public health efforts during the return to school in January 2021, we have been offered additional coronavirus (COVID-19) asymptomatic testing from the first week of January. This will help deliver the national priority of keeping as many pupils and teachers as possible in school beyond the start of term, minimising the spread of the virus and disruption caused by coronavirus (COVID-19) cases arising in education settings.

We encourage as many families as possible to give consent to the testing. Without consent to the testing, which will be carried out in school, self-isolation will remain as the strategy if someone tests positive or is in contact with someone who has tested positive.

Pupils in exam year groups (**Years 11 and Post 16**) **vulnerable children, the children of critical workers** will access **on-site education provision** from Monday 4 January and should be prioritised for testing. To help us plan for the provision please could you register by clicking [here](#) if you are a critical worker or if your child is classed as vulnerable.

All other pupils (**Years 7, 8 9 and 10**) should not attend school for the week of 4 January. We will provide **remote education** using Microsoft Teams until 11 January when they should return to school and resume face-to-face attendance. **Pupils will not need to have had a test in order to return to school on 11 January.**

Throughout, all children and young people should continue to comply with the rules set out for the tier they are in, and parents are asked to help ensure their children are following these rules. That particularly includes those related to mixing with other households when they are not at school and when they are travelling to and from educational settings. Details of the process of testing and consent will follow in due course.

I hope this is not the case, but in the eventuality of a family member testing positive/self-isolating, or indeed any other serious health-related matter, please ensure you contact the school using the following mobile number: **07510 178563**. It is possible to leave a voicemail message if there is no one to answer your call.

Finally, I apologise for sending this important update on the last day of term. However, schools were formally only informed yesterday of this information.

Yours faithfully



Bryan Erwin - Principal