



**Monday 15th March 2021**

Dear Parents and Carers,

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. Their first home test will be the second this week as they should already have had one in school on Monday.

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.

We will be sending home COVID-19 testing kits with your son/daughter today (March 15th) following his/her final lateral flow test in school. Please make sure your son/daughter tests themselves **twice a week 3-5 days apart, in the morning before school if possible and, if not, the evening before.** If your son/daughter is not attending for a test on Monday 15th, we will provide the kit on Tuesday 16th during the last lesson of the day, although we encourage as many students as possible to have one more test on site.

We have been informed this week that your son/daughter should also **continue testing twice a week, at home, throughout the Easter school holidays.** We will be sending home extra kits for this period before term ends.

As with the tests we have recently carried out in school, home testing does not replace testing for those with symptoms. If your son/daughter has symptoms he/she 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 to NHS Test and Trace straight away, even if your son/daughter's result is negative or void as we have been doing for tests in school. 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.

You must also report your test results to the school. To reduce the administrative burden for you and us, we will assume tests are **negative** unless told otherwise. If your test is **void** or **positive**, please inform the school immediately via [office@stokesleyschool.org](mailto:office@stokesleyschool.org) or 01642 710050 during office hours. If the test is **void**, another one should be completed straight away, there is a spare in the box and further tests can be obtained from school.

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

We would like to remind you 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 via [this](#) government web page;
- getting an assisted test at work, if it is available; or,
- 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 about school household testing visit [this](#) page on the government website.

### Finding out more about testing at home

Home testing is relatively straightforward but to help understand how it works you can:

- watch some short videos which can be found [here](#);
- read the short guide attached with this letter;
- read the guide that comes with your test kit \*.

*\* Please note NHS Test and Trace have informed us the guide in the test kit box is incorrect; please discard it and use the one that will be given to your son/daughter separately in school.*

We continue to encourage everyone to take part in regular Covid-19 testing. Thank you for your support and do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Yours faithfully

Mrs H. L. Millett  
Headteacher