



18<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

## Re: Covid-19 self-testing home kits

I would like to start by thanking the staff, parents/carers and students who have been incredibly supportive of the running of the Lateral Flow Testing process over the past 9 days. By the end of this week we will have completed the cycle of 3 tests for each student whose parent/carer have given consent, which is approximately 82% of the school student population. I would like to thank personally, the staff and volunteers from the community who worked tirelessly in order that we could conduct mass testing on such a large scale, and in such a safe and controlled manner.

### COVID-19 Home testing Kits

In line with government guidance, students who have taken part in the lateral flow testing programme at school will now be able to administer tests at home themselves.

From Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March students will be issued with their home COVID-19 self-testing kit with comprehensive instructions from NHS Test and Trace. The kits are compact and lightweight which students will be able to carry in a normal school bag.

We will be asking students to complete the tests on **Sunday and Wednesday** evenings each week.

### How to register your test

If you complete a home LFD Covid-19 test you have a legal obligation to report your result. We have invested in an online recording system which is quite simple to use.

Once your son/daughter has completed the test they must record the result. You will shortly receive an invite to our new system, Simply click the link in the email and 'log in' – no need for usernames and passwords. This system automatically notifies the school and subsequently sends you to the government registering a test site (the same one that students have completed for each test they have had in school).

Please email [covid@tiverton.devon.sch.uk](mailto:covid@tiverton.devon.sch.uk) if you have any problems.

For further information on how to home test please refer to the government website on [www.gov.uk/covid19-self-test-help](http://www.gov.uk/covid19-self-test-help)

### What if the test is confirmed as positive?

If a lateral flow test comes back positive your child should self-isolate immediately. Please notify the school via this email address [covid@tiverton.devon.sch.uk](mailto:covid@tiverton.devon.sch.uk). The government are advising that if a LFT is positive at home a student or staff member should book themselves a PCR test by calling 119 or visiting this website <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>. The student/staff member must continue to self-isolate until the result of the PCR test is confirmed.



If the PCR test comes back as negative the student /member of staff can return to school.

If it is positive, they should continue to self-isolate for the full 10 days from when they took the lateral flow test.

We would also like to share the following points for information following our experiences and some parent queries from the first testing process:

Individuals with a positive lateral flow test result will need to self-isolate in line with the government guidance for households.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

### **What if my child develops symptoms?**

The testing programme at home is for students with no symptoms, if anyone develops symptoms at any time (such as a high temperature; a new, continuous cough; or a loss or change to their sense of smell or taste) they must immediately self-isolate and book a test by calling 119 or visiting this website <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

May I remind you that **no student should be on-site** if they or any member of their household is displaying symptoms.

In the meantime, we will continue to communicate with all students and parents/carers over the coming weeks if there are any further developments at a government or local level.

We have valued all your support since the beginning of our testing process to support the return to school and we ask that you continue to communicate via [covid@tiverton.devon.sch.uk](mailto:covid@tiverton.devon.sch.uk) if you require any further assistance in relation to the lateral flow testing at school.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sammy Crook', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Sammy Crook  
Head