

15th March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Lateral Flow Testing Update – 15th March 2021

Thank you for your support with our on-site Lateral Flow Testing process, which has run incredibly smoothly over the past few weeks, thanks to excellent planning and great school community collaboration. Our children have been exceptional in how maturely they have embraced this process and we are very proud of them!

Our students returned to school so calmly and responsibly last week, with a 'ready to learn' attitude.

We have now completed our in-school testing and it is now time to prepare for the home testing phase.

How will the kits be issued to my child?

If you consented to your child being tested and they have attended at least one of their three appointments, your child will be able to pick up their test kits at the end of the school day on Wednesday. We will have stations set up for each year group to collect their kits as they leave school. They will be asked to sign for their kits. The test kits are uniquely numbered and this number will be recorded by the school as required by the Department for Education.

How many tests are in each kit?

There are 3 tests in each box.

How many times a week should my child be tested?

We ask that your child is tested twice a week and ask that you do this on Wednesday morning and Sunday evening.

How do the test kits work?

The test kits are identical to those used in school, which your child should now be very familiar with and there are clear instructions provided to show you how to process and dispose of the swab. There is an instruction manual inside of all of the kits, however, the DfE have since updated their guidance and therefore, your child will be provided with an additional instruction booklet. It is important to note that your child should not eat for 30 minutes prior to the test to ensure accurate results. **Please follow the instructions in the additional booklet, as opposed to the instructions inside the box.**

Can my child test themselves?

Students aged 11 should be tested by an adult. Those aged 12 – 17 should self-test, but may be supported by an adult if needed, and report with adult supervision. Students aged 18 and over should self-test and report the result, with assistance if needed.

How do I log the results of the test?

All test results should be reported to NHS Test and Trace at www.gov.uk/report-covid-result and logged with school at www.nusa.org.uk/home-test-result.

What do I do if the results are positive?

If the test result is positive, please contact school on 0115 929 1492 between the hours of 7:30am and 4pm and on contact@nusa.org.uk outside of these hours. We will then get in touch regarding next steps.

Students with a positive LFD tests result will need to self- isolate in line with 'stay at home' guidance. They will also need to arrange a PCR test to confirm the result of the home test.

What if the results show as invalid?

In the unlikely event your child receives an 'invalid' result, they should test again straight away. If the second test is also 'invalid', your child should arrange for a PCR test.

How many test kits will we be given?

We will send your child home with two test kit boxes. This will be enough tests to last for 3 weeks. We will hand out additional test boxes on the final day of term to cover the second week of the holidays and in to the first two weeks of the Summer term.

Do we have to continue testing during the Easter holidays?

Yes please.

I consented late for lateral flow testing and my child hasn't been tested in school yet. Can they still bring a kit home?

We will be holding a 'mop up' session for all students who consented late to testing or who had to miss their appointments. These will take place on Tuesday and you will receive an email later today with appointment times.

The LFD testing process has proven very successful in securing our safe return to school and we are grateful for your continued support as you now take on this responsibility at home. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions about this process and thank you in advance for following the steps outlined above carefully and helping us safely keep our schools open going forward.

Take care,

Emma Howard

Head of School