

Wednesday, 17 March 2021

RE: Home Testing for COVID-19

Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope that this letter finds you safe and well.

We have now almost completed the three rounds of testing for students at the testing facility at Heron Hall. This has been an incredible achievement with over 2000 tests being completed over the two-week period and I want to thank you for your support with this. It is great to know that yourselves, students and staff can feel safe knowing that we are doing all that we can to stop the spread of COVID-19.

We are now about to move into the next phase of the COVID-19 testing and this will be home testing. The students will receive a home testing kit by the end of this week which has **3 tests**. With the shortened time frame between now and the Easter holidays we are expecting that these kits will last up until that time and new kits will be handed out just before the Easter holiday in time for them to return.

The test kits are simple to use and the students should be aware of the process after testing at school although the processing of the tests will be a new process. They can be processed simply without the use of any specialist equipment and everything you require is included in the kits we will be providing. The NHS have produced a [video here](#) that you can watch to show the whole process and the kits come with full instructions.

The expectation around the home testing is that students will **test twice per week at home**. It may be easiest to do this on a Sunday evening before the new week and then at some point in the middle of the week. Please be advised that the **tests take 30 minutes** to produce a result and so allow yourself the time to do this.

Once you have completed the testing you need to record your result in two places. You need to provide us with a result so that we can collate the number of tests being taken and have an internal record. You are able to record your result with us here <https://forms.gle/22ourVNe2hivREM79>.

You are also required to record the result with the NHS using the barcode on the testing kits and that can be done here www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result.



You do not need to provide consent for the testing as by completing the test at home you are giving consent. If you have not completed the school tests but wish to begin testing at home you are now able to do so. As with the school testing there it is not compulsory to test and everything is voluntary however we would strongly recommend that your student completes the tests.

We will be maintaining a small testing site for students who cannot test at home and students will be able to access this during their lunch times if there are concerns around home testing. Students will need to speak to their Head of Year so we can collate numbers.

As always if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the school and we will do our best to support.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Barzey', written in a cursive style.

Mr A Barzey

Headteacher

Heron Hall Academy

