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01 December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

RE: Return to school Jan 2022 & testing of students

In light of developments regarding the new variant and as part of the government's plan to help control the spread of Covid-19, the DfE have advised that secondary school students will be offered a single on-site lateral flow test on their return to the Academy after the Christmas break. Testing is completely voluntary but students are strongly encouraged to take part to support the return to face to face education.

This on-site test will only be accessible to students whose parents have given consent for them to be part of this testing initiative. If you would like your child to be tested on their return in January you must fill out [this electronic form](#) as an indication of your consent. Please note that if you have previously consented in previous testing rounds, you will still need to complete the consent form, which can also be accessed via the green button on the [academy website](#) or if you need to request a hard copy for any reason, please contact the Academy office directly. **Also please note that all consent forms must be received by midday on Monday 6 December.**

How the tests work

Those taking the test will be supervised by trained staff and volunteers. The lateral flow devices are easy to undertake, using a swab of the nose and throat. Results will be shared directly to the person named on the consent form via a text/email notification from the online NHS system. The school will also inform any student of a positive test result directly using the phone number provided.

Any students with a positive test result will be contacted by NHS Track and Trace, will need to self-isolate for ten days in line with the Public Health England guidance and will be asked to obtain a confirmatory PCR test.

Home Testing

Following the completion of this single in-school COVID-19 test, to support this endeavour, we encourage students to continue to test twice weekly at home. These tests can be accessed through school using the current process of students requesting these via their tutors.

As always, thank you for your support with this which helps to ensure your child can continue their face-to-face education.

Yours sincerely

Mr D Gelder
Principal
For and on behalf of Tove Learning Trust