



17th March 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Home testing kits and arrangements for students at John Ferneley College

I am delighted to inform you that we have completed a successful 8-day testing programme upon reopening this term. We are very pleased to say how much maturity and resilience our students have shown throughout their three on-site tests and now we are confident to transition to home testing with self-testing kits.

Following the government directive, students are to now test themselves at home **from w/c 22nd March**. Students are to continue taking **twice-weekly** tests using their home test kit provided by school.

On Thursday 18th and Friday 19th March, tutors will be issuing your child/ren with their first 'batch' of home testing kits (x6 swabs in total) to use twice-weekly, at home, between **Monday 22nd March - Sunday 11th April 2021**. Please ensure your child/ren come prepared to school with a school bag / carrier bag to place their home test kits in. The next 'batch' of home testing kits will be distributed to your child/ren following the Easter break, w/c 12th April 2021.

Parents/guardians are reminded that children aged 12 to 17 years of age can administer the test themselves. If you would like more information on how to test your child/ren please revisit the NHS instructional leaflet [here](#).

Please carefully read the guidance below for home testing and reporting results:

Home testing process – guidance for parents/guardians and students

- Tests are free of charge. Students will receive a pack/s of 3 tests in a box with a leaflet on how to take the test and report the results with the NHS.
- Students must take their home test before school or after-school on a **Wednesday** and **Sunday**, each week. Following the government directive, students / staff are to test themselves 3 – 5 days apart.
- Parents/guardians are reminded that children aged 12 to 17 years of age can administer the test themselves. If you would like more information on how to test your child/ren, please revisit the NHS instructional leaflet [here](#).
- Make sure your child/ren have enough time to do the test during out of school hours, preferably before school or in the evening.
- You should report all test results to [NHS Test and Trace](#) as soon as the test is completed, either online or by telephone, as set out in the home test kit instructional guide – see further guidance on reporting results overleaf.
- All students are required to test themselves during the school holidays.
- Students will be given further home test kits when the previous set has run out and these will be distributed during tutor time.

Please see overleaf....

Taking the test – guidance for parents/guardians and students

A short video step-by-step guide on how to take the home test can be viewed [here](#).

General guidance can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-self-test-help>

There is no need to keep used test equipment after the test result has been reported. You can put it in your normal bin (household waste).

This does not replace symptomatic testing. If you have symptoms, you should self-isolate immediately, book a PCR test and follow national guidelines. You can order your PCR test here: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

It is important to remember that although we have nominated set days for testing, if your child/ren shows symptoms of coronavirus, they can book a PCR test through the NHS at any time, and must follow all national directives for self-isolating.

Reporting the results: what should you do after the home test?

- **If the home test result is positive:** you, your household, any support bubbles you are part of should self-isolate immediately, in line with NHS Test and Trace guidance for 10 days. You also need to order a confirmatory PCR test using this link: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>
- You need to report your result (negative or positive) to both NHS Test and Trace and John Ferneley College.
- **To inform the NHS of the test result** this can be done by telephoning 119, or online <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result> as stated in the step-by-step leaflet guide.
- **To inform John Ferneley College of a test result**, please use the Microsoft Forms link here: <https://forms.office.com/r/nNWDu9vpj9>
- **To cover all bases, we strongly encourage you to report a positive test result** by calling **01664 595901** during a school day **8am – 4pm**, or contact nteece@mowbrayeducation.org or cbradley@johnferneley.org immediately, out of hours.

Thank you for your continued support throughout reopening and the testing programme on-site.

Yours sincerely,

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