



Our Ref: ANS/KL

16 December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

### **NHS Test and Trace: COVID-19 testing for students**

You will be aware the government have increased the restrictions due to the Omicron Variant in their efforts to ensure that all children are able to remain in schools over the coming months.

Under government guidelines, we will carry out testing of all students who have your consent during the first week back in January. We feel it is appropriate to renew the consent rather than use existing consent, please can you complete the form on WEDUC, which you have already been sent, or you can access the form by clicking on this link: [View Form](#). If you do not have access to WEDUC please contact main reception on 01207 292 180 and a member of the admin team will be happy to help you.

To minimise the disruption to Year 11 learning at this vital time in the academic year we are testing Year 11 on the **non-teaching day of Tuesday January 4<sup>th</sup>**. Time slots will be sent as soon as possible after we receive your consent.

- **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January: Year 11 (via time slot)**
- Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January: Year 7 – Year 10, during the school day
- All Students return for teaching on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January**.

### **Changes to rules regarding Close Contacts**

Please ensure your child continues to **test twice weekly** even during the holidays.

Tests will be made available for all student this week to ensure that you have a supply over the holiday period, but we will only offer to those who want them.

**If your child takes a test pack, please ensure that it arrives home and does not get thrown away on the way home.**

The government changed the rules around close contacts for fully vaccinated adults and children under the age of 18 years and 6 months.

From Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December, people identified as close contacts should take an NHS rapid lateral flow test every day for 7 days rather than self-isolate. **Children are able to come to school following a negative lateral flow test result.** However, if the child tests positive they should self-isolate until they receive a confirmatory PCR test result. If they are positive they should self-isolate for 10 days, **if they are negative they can return to school.**

If you have any questions, please contact main reception.

Yours sincerely

**A Sweeten**  
**Principal**