

29 March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you

As this term, draws to a close, I would like to thank you for all you have done to support the college. We have asked a great deal of you: supporting your child's education at home during several weeks of remote learning, then working with us to get the students Covid tested at college and now at home. I hope your family is now able to have some sort of break over the Easter period. The last day of the spring term is this Thursday (1st April). This will be a full college day. To thank students for their hard work and commitment to College after returning from lock down, they will be allowed to wear non-uniform on this day and they will not be required to pay for doing this.

Covid home testing

This week, your child will be given the next pack of Covid tests for home use. They should continue to test twice a week during the Easter holidays. It is critically important that they take a test the night before they come back to Wyvern for the start of the summer term on Monday 19th April so they must test on Sunday 18th April. The national Covid restrictions are being eased this week and again over the Easter holiday so students will be exposed to more situations where Covid could be transmitted. By continuing to test over the Easter break and especially on Sunday 18th April, we can, together, identify positive cases and prevent these from starting chains of transmission in college. We can only keep students safe with your help and co-operation with testing. Beneath this letter, I include some more frequently asked questions about testing, with answers.

Covid cases during the Easter break

College staff will need to continue to undertake track and trace duties for the first part of the Easter holidays so please do continue to alert us to any positive test results for your child by contacting welfare@wyvern.hants.sch.uk. We will continue to contact parents of children who have been in close contact in college with a confirmed positive case.

Easing of Covid restrictions

I thought it would be helpful to summarise for you the national changes to the Covid restrictions. From today (Monday 29th March): people are allowed to meet up socially. To ensure this is done safely, social distancing should still be maintained, this should be done outside only and socialising should be limited to either a maximum of 6 people or people from only two households. There remains a ban on meeting people indoors, although, people can come into your home to get to the garden to meet and to use the toilet. The government has planned for a further easing of lockdown restrictions from 12th April. These include the opening of gyms, non-essential shops, hairdressers and pubs. Social distancing remains very important and the worry is that new Covid variants begin to circulate.

This last week marked a full year since the first lockdown began. As spring arrives, as the vaccine rollout gathers pace and as the restrictions begin to ease, I hope we

can look forward to brighter months ahead. If we as a community can continue to follow the guidance (hands, face, space) and continue to do the testing then we will be able to give back to our children the childhood and education they deserve.

At this Easter time, I wish you and your family all the best,

Mr Rule

Frequently Asked Questions on Covid testing at home

Why should I test my child, they have been tested in school 3 times? The initial testing identified any students that could be asymptomatic, not showing any signs of having the virus, allowing the schools to open safely. Up to one in three people who have Covid have no symptoms and could be spreading it. By doing the home-tests, you and your child can uncover hidden cases of the virus, break the chains of transmission and stop outbreaks before they get a chance to develop.

When should my child test? Tests should be done every 3-4 days, these can be done either in the morning or for some children and families, the evening time works better. Allow 30 minutes after food and drink. 30 mins for the result. Here's a chart that may help you.

Test 1 - Test 2

Monday - Thursday or Friday

Tuesday - Friday or Saturday

Wednesday - Saturday or Sunday

Thursday - Sunday or Monday

Friday - Monday or Tuesday

Saturday - Tuesday or Wednesday

Sunday - Wednesday or Thursday

My child has missed a day that they should have tested? Just test as soon as you have remembered, or is possible. Then retest again following the 3-4 day cycle.

Where should I log the results? Two places, the NHS website www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result and also at Wyvern, covidtestresults@wyvern.hants.shc.uk, stating your child's name, tutor group, the date of the test and the result of the test in the subject title. The result must be logged if negative as well as positive. This gives us the information of how many of our students are testing.

What do I do if the test is void or inconclusive? Test again, using another test from your kit.

The kit is not complete, I have some items of the kit missing? Contact us through enquiries@wyvern.hants.sch.uk we can arrange for a replacement item or kit to be given to your child.

What do I do if the LFT is positive? The government has confirmed that "All positive results from rapid tests undertaken at home do need to be confirmed with a

standard PCR test. This is because these tests are not conducted in a controlled environment and will not have trained staff on hand. Following a positive LFD test at home, a confirmatory PCR test should be booked online or by calling 119. **Whilst awaiting the PCR result, the pupil or student and their close contacts should self-isolate.** If the PCR test is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD test (at home only) and a child can return to school.” This can be found in the [FAQ document](#) on the DfE’s google drive.

My child has symptoms/feeling unwell? If your child has Covid symptoms, do not use the home test kit, you will need to book a PCR test.

Why do I have 2 different instruction leaflets? The leaflet inside the boxes have been updated since the kits were manufactured and a new leaflet version 1.3.2, needs to be followed