



ESHER CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL
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Headteacher : Mr M Boddington

15 March 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians

Following the return to school for all year groups last week, we are pleased to advise that we will be ready for all students to transition to home testing during the week commencing 15 March, by the end of which all students for whom we hold consent, will have completed the series of school lateral flow tests.

We will be issuing the children their initial supply of home testing kits across the week. Your child will be asked to sign for two boxes confirming that they understand that the leaflet which accompanies the boxes supersedes the instructions inside the box. Their first test should be undertaken on the evening of Sunday 21 or morning of Monday 22 March 2021 and they must have received a negative result prior to coming into school.

Each box of home test-kits contains three tests which means that they will receive enough tests for the remainder of the Easter term. Tests for the Easter holidays will be distributed in the coming weeks. Anyone aged 11 must ensure the test is administered by an adult, and anyone aged 12-17 should be supervised by an adult but can swab themselves. If your child does not receive this test kit for any reason, please get in touch with the school Covid-19 Coordinators (details below).

As you know, home test-kits are available for members of households and bubbles with school aged children. These can be collected from local test sites, please see [here](#) to locate your nearest point.

Each test result for your child at Esher High School (regardless of what the result is) must be submitted to both the NHS and to Esher High School (links below). The unique barcode your child will use for each test is pre-printed on the home test cassette.

We have attached a copy of the COVID-19 Self-Test Instructions. A hard copy of this will also be issued along with your child's test kit. Please dispose of any instructions within the test-kit box itself (see important points below).

Please note that in line with NHS and DfE guidance, **any positive test result from LFD home test must be confirmed with a standard PCR test and student must self-isolate following government guidelines.** This is because the home tests are not conducted in a controlled environment and will not have trained staff on hand. The confirmatory PCR test can be booked [online](#) or by calling 119.

If you have an incident while testing at home, please report the incident as per the instructions attached.



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We hope the onsite testing will have helped your child become confident in the test process and feel ready to administer their own test at home. There is a very helpful video with Dr Amir Khan [here](#), which we would strongly recommend watching before your child starts their home-testing, and can be used as a refresher throughout. **Please take a moment to go through the important points listed below with your child, including how the kits must be stored:**

Important Points to remember;

- The instructions included *inside* your test-kit are out of date. Please dispose of these upon opening your kit to avoid any confusion. New instructions will be issued when your child collect their kit
- Ideally, tests will be carried out the morning before attending site, but if that is difficult you may take the test the evening before, in particular for the first time you use the test kits so you can go through the process without time pressure
- Tests should be twice weekly, 3-4 days apart – we would recommend Sunday and Wednesday evenings.
- Please do not eat or drink for 30 minutes before your test
- Test-kits must be kept between 2-30 degrees Celsius at all times, so please ensure they are not left in cars/ garages overnight!
- After administering and processing your self-test your child must report the confirmed result to the NHS [here](#) (or by calling 119 between 07:00 – 23:00) and to the school [here](#). (We would recommend you save the links as bookmarks in their internet browser as they'll need to access them twice weekly)
- If your child's LFD test result is positive, please stay home, report the results to the NHS and Esher High School (via studentservices@esherhigh.surrey.sch.uk), book a PCR test [online](#) or by phoning 119 and self-isolate whilst awaiting your result. **Please inform the school as soon as possible.**
- If your child is symptomatic, please do not self-test. You must book a PCR test [online](#) or by phoning 119 and self-isolate whilst awaiting your result
- The Covid Coordinators at the school are Mrs Rolfe (srolfe@esherhigh.surrey.sch.uk) and Mrs Pyrgos (epyrgos@esherhigh.surrey.sch.uk) so please contact them with any further questions you may have.
- Students who decline to participate in this testing programme should follow the usual national guidelines on self-isolation and [get tested](#) if they show symptoms

Thank you for all your support and flexibility on this process so far, and please don't hesitate to get in touch should you have any concerns surrounding the above.

Yours faithfully

Esher High School Covid-19 Testing Team



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