

19 March 2021

Dear parent/carer

### **Update on twice weekly COVID-19 testing at home for students**

I hope you are well during this time. We have now completed the first three supervised tests on site at the Academy. We are exceedingly grateful to the COVID-19 testing team and we are very proud of how our students conducted themselves throughout this process. Students will shortly be moving to twice weekly, rapid COVID-19 testing at home.

Up to 1 in 3 people who have COVID-19 have no symptoms and could be spreading it without knowing. Getting into a regular habit of testing twice a week will help stop the virus spreading, keeping your family and friends safer.

On Monday 22 March we will be sending home COVID-19 testing kits with your child. Please make sure your child tests themselves twice a week, 3-5 days apart, in the morning before school if possible and, if not, the evening before.

Further kits will be sent home to ensure that your child can continue to be tested.

Your child should also continue testing twice a week, at home, throughout the Easter school holidays. We will be sending home extra kits for the Easter holiday before term ends.

This does not replace testing for those with symptoms. If you have symptoms you must self-isolate immediately, book a PCR test and follow national guidelines.

### **Reporting results**

It is really important that results of test are reported online straight away, even if your child's result is negative or void. It's easy to do at <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>

Results can also be reported via telephone by calling 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day, 7am to 11pm.

It is important to keep a note of your child's positive results. Please inform us of any positive cases by emailing [office@dukeries.atrust.org.uk](mailto:office@dukeries.atrust.org.uk) or by calling 01623 860545.

### **Testing for parents, households and bubbles twice a week**

A reminder that regular rapid testing is now also available for parents, carers, their households and support or childcare bubbles. The government is encouraging all families to participate in twice weekly testing to help stop the spread.

Parents, carers and other adults in the household can access tests by:

- Ordering tests online [www.gov.uk/order-school-household-tests](http://www.gov.uk/order-school-household-tests)
- Getting an assisted test at work, if it is available
- Attending a test site to get tested (where you will be able to see how to take the test) or pick up tests to do at home.

To find out more on school household testing visit [Households and bubbles of pupils, students and staff of schools, nurseries and colleges: get rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/households-and-bubbles-of-pupils-students-and-staff-of-schools-nurseries-and-colleges-get-rapid-lateral-flow-tests)

We continue to encourage everyone to take part in regular Covid-19 testing to keep us all as safe as possible. If you have any questions or require further information please contact the Academy via [office@dukeries.atrust.org.uk](mailto:office@dukeries.atrust.org.uk)

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ged Rae', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mr Ged Rae  
Principal