



The Forest School
Every Child, Every Chance



11th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been just lovely having more children in school this week. We continue to have to manage very high staff absence and so I am really grateful as always for all your understanding around this.

Many of our secondary children have been taking part in the lateral flow testing in school and they have just been amazing, we are all so proud of them. As I mentioned to you last week it is the intention that from next week this testing moves into the home environment for parents and carers to conduct the tests on their child.

The test kits will be sent home with your child tomorrow; they come with an instruction book and so please don't worry about what to do as it is explained quite clearly in the booklet. What is a little confusing is that you are asked to discard the booklet that is within the box, and instead use the separate one that comes with the kit. The one that has a picture on the front should be discarded - I can't do this for you as unfortunately the boxes are sealed, and we are instructed not to open them.

Some parents will receive one box with 7 tests in them and some parents will receive 2 boxes that each have 3 tests in them. This is just how the boxes have come to us and there isn't any other difference.

I am asking that you conduct the test on your child in the evening (and not on the morning). Although the test itself takes only about 10-15 minutes (including set up time) you have to wait 30 minutes for the test results, and I think that this puts too much pressure on families in a morning. Furthermore, should your child test positive it doesn't give me much time to isolate everyone else whereas if I know the evening before it makes this much more possible.

I am therefore asking for you to carry out the tests on the follow days:

- Sunday 14th March
- Wednesday 17th March
- Sunday 21st March
- Wednesday 24th Marh
- EASTER HOLIDAYS - NO TESTING REQUIRED
- Monday 12th April
- Wednesday 14th April

We will then issue further test kits after the Easter holidays. Please note that you do not need to notify me of negative results, I only need to know about positive ones.

If your child is not currently in school, then we will issue this test to go home with your child on Monday. If you could test your child on Monday 15th March and then fall in with the dates above, please then that would be really helpful. Staff are also testing at home on these days too.

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Please remember that this is for SECONDARY children only. I have copied all parents and carers into this as this is an additional safety measure and I hope that it is reassuring for you.

As always, if you have any questions around any of these then please just drop me an email.

Take care.

Michelle Farr
Headteacher
The Forest School

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