



Monday 8th March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you are aware schools have reopened for most pupils from 8th March 2021. This directive applies to all schools, including special schools.

Secondary students, Year 7 and above, are requested to take COVID-19 tests.

Therefore, we are writing to discover which parents/carers would be willing to carry out the lateral flow test for their child that attends Riverside Bridge School. If you feel that taking the test would cause your child a heightened level of anxiety, testing of the primary carer would be an option.

Please indicate on the online form (link at the bottom of the letter) to state if you wish for a testing kit to be available to your child or the primary carer. Alternatively, if you would like to opt out of the testing scheme for either your child or the primary carer, please indicate this on the form. All responses must be submitted by **Thursday 11th March 2021 at 9am** in order for us to allocate the testing kits.

Testing for COVID-19 is the most secure way that the government has introduced to ensure that pupils can remain at school and reduce the risk of the spread of the infection.

Lateral Flow testing kits will be available for collection from **Thursday 11th March 2021** or can be sent home with your child. Each testing kit will provide 7 tests. This will mean that there are enough tests in each box for your child/primary carer to be tested up until the Easter break and then an additional test for the return to school after the Easter break. New boxes of testing kits will be available after the Easter break.

These tests are to be completed at home, the first test to be completed is on the evening of Sunday 14th March 2021 and repeated on the evening of Wednesday 17th March 2021 and repeated twice per week every Sunday and Wednesday until the Easter break. We request that the school be notified of your child's test result via the school email account at the top of this letter.

If your child/primary carer tests positive, you and your household will need to begin a period of self-isolation for 10 days, counting day 1 as the day of the test. Please ensure the school is notified immediately so the relevant authorities can be informed and where necessary the bubble can be closed.

Please remember *"the testing programme does not replace the current testing policy for those with symptoms. Anyone with symptoms (even if they recently had a negative LFD test result), should still self-isolate immediately according to government guidelines and seek a further PCR test."*

<https://forms.gle/G9GJ2NAmj1E1mP4U6>

Kind regards,

Mrs K Cerri
Headteacher