

**21<sup>st</sup> April 2021**

Dear families and employees,

**Re: COVID-19 self-test kit collection trial**

Regular, rapid testing for people without symptoms is already taking place across the country. Households, including support and childcare bubbles, of nursery, school and college age children are eligible to take part in this testing.

We are currently working with the Department for Health and Social Care to trial a new method of collecting self-test LFD kits as part of this testing programme. **We would like to invite all households who are currently connected to the school to take part**. This would allow all members of households to collect test kits for twice weekly testing via the school.

### **Why testing is important**

As many as one in three people who contract the virus show no symptoms (they are asymptomatic), so could be spreading the disease unknowingly. Asymptomatic testing will help to identify positive cases more quickly and break the chains of transmission. Those who test positive will self-isolate, helping to reduce transmission of the virus.

### **How this trial will work**

From Wednesday 22.04.21 households who agree to take part in the trial will be able to request self-test kits which enable testing at home. This will enable all members of the household to carry out twice weekly testing. Tests are free of charge and will be provided by us at school.

### **Taking the Test**

The lateral flow device (LFD) test will produce results after 30 minutes and do not require laboratory processing. You can find guidance on how to conduct self-testing in the 'Instructions for Use' leaflet which comes with the test kit and at [COVID-19 self-test help - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-self-test-help). Here is a [useful video](#) to show you how to administer the test.

### **Reporting the Test**

Once the test has been conducted you will need to log the test result online at: <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>. Please note that searching for a school name on the site currently doesn't work well. Please use the postcode of the school to search instead, which is N7 OJG.

You can also report your test results by calling the phone number in your test kit's instructions.



## How you will receive your self-test kits

For parents and carers your child will be given the test kits to take home. Employees can collect them in school.

## How we will gather feedback on the study

Researchers from the Department for Health and Social Care are looking to speak to parents and other members of household bubbles in order to understand their thoughts and experiences of this study. They will be conducting telephone or video interviews throughout the course of the study and are **interested in speaking with parents who don't opt to take part as well as those that do**. They will also be conducting a survey to gather more thoughts from the school community that will be shared in due course. If you would like to take part in an interview and share your thoughts, please click on this [link](https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/JY7UZ2/) (<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/JY7UZ2/>) and one of the researchers may get in touch with you.

## What you need to do next

- Let us know if you and your household bubble would like to receive home self-test kits and how many individuals (excluding school children) require tests via email [postbox@beaconhigh.org](mailto:postbox@beaconhigh.org)
- If you would like to share your thoughts about home testing (even if you do not wish to take part) click [here](#) (or on the link above) to let the researchers from the Department for Health and Social Care know and they will get in touch with you.

Yours faithfully,



Alan Streeter  
Headteacher