

September 21

Dear Parent/Carer

Up to one in three people who have COVID-19 can spread the virus without knowing. This is because they have no symptoms. To reduce the spread of the virus, we need to identify those individuals. We can do this by carrying out tests at home twice every week, 3-4 days apart.

[The Government have announced that](#) all secondary aged pupils (Years 7&8) will continue to be offered tests to make the return to school safer for everyone.

### **Testing pupils at home**

Following the on-site testing we will provide test kits to all pupils from week beginning 13 September.

We would recommend that pupils take their tests on **Sunday and Wednesday evening** with the first test starting on **Sunday 19 September**.

(However, if you would prefer a morning, the test will need to be taken on a Monday and Thursday morning before school, please make sure you have enough time to do the test and get the results before coming to school)

Tests are free of charge. Pupils will receive two test kits with 7 tests in a box and a leaflet on how to take the test, you will have enough tests to last until the October half term.

### **Taking the test**

Pupils should take the test twice a week. We will give pupils a leaflet with instructions on how to do the test with the kit. There is also a useful video to show you how to take the test [here](#).

[Help and support is available](#), including instructions in different languages on how to test and report the results and a video showing you how to take the test.

There is no need to keep used test equipment after the test result has been reported. You can put it in your normal bin (household waste).

This does not replace symptomatic testing. If you have symptoms, you should self-isolate immediately, book a PCR test and follow national guidelines.

**'Let your light shine before others' Matthew 5 v 16**  
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Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility - Selwood Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our children and we expect all members of staff, volunteers and visitors to share this commitment.

### **What should you do after the test?**

If the test is **positive**, your child will need to isolate immediately, book a PCR test to confirm and follow NHS test and Trace guidelines.

You will need to report your LFT **positive** result to both <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result> and **Selwood Academy**, via the coronavirus support page of the school website.

If the result of the test is **unclear (void)** you should do another test.

### **Why take part**

Taking part in testing is voluntary and all pupils will be able to attend school whether they take part in testing or not.

I am strongly encouraging all pupils to take part. Testing at home will allow your child and other pupils to attend school as safely as possible.

Thank you for your support.

Yours faithfully



**Dan Jeffries**  
**Head Teacher**