

Dear Parent/Guardian

If your child is taking part in the lateral flow programme at home, I would like to remind you about the importance of regular testing. We originally specified Sundays and Wednesdays when we were recording results through school but any twice-weekly testing regime will be fine. In light of the new Omicron variant, the need to continue testing but then reporting test results is more important than ever. You no longer need to report results to school but you should please start recording your child's lateral flow results to the NHS, if you are not doing so already. Instructions for how to do this will be in your lateral flow boxes and further information can be found using the following link: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing/test-results/report-a-rapid-lateral-flow-test-result/>

All results should be recorded whether they are negative, void or positive. All recorded information provides the Government/NHS with the vital statistics they need for planning. We can continue to supply testing kits where required. Your child can collect further supplies from the First Aid room or from Reception. Please note that we have recently taken receipt of a new variety of home testing kits, the instructions for which are slightly different. Please take a moment to read the instructions contained within the box.

A final reminder that we will be conducting lateral flow tests on 4th and 5th January. Your support with this requirement is appreciated.

With regard to vaccinations for students, we have received a few queries over the last few days about these. I can confirm that 12-15 year olds who have not been vaccinated can book an appointment out of school on the National Booking System, and from 20 December those eligible for second doses will be also be able to book. You might find the following link helpful: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/>

Wishing you all a safe and restful break from school!