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Monday 13 September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you are already aware, we have been testing for Covid-19 in school using lateral flow tests, in line with the Government mass asymptomatic testing programme. The next stage in the programme is for pupils attending school to complete a self-swab and test twice per week at home. The Government outlines the following:

Both pupils and staff in secondary schools will be supplied with LFD test kits to self-swab and test themselves twice a week at home. Staff and pupils must report their result to NHS Test and Trace as soon as the test is completed either online or by telephone as per the instructions in the home test kit. Staff and pupils should also share their result, whether void, positive or negative, with their school to help with contact tracing.

Department for Education (February 2021). *Schools coronavirus (COVID-19) operational guidance*. pp.31

From today, we will be providing students with home test kits. Each kit contains the material to conduct seven Covid-19 lateral flow tests. Kits are supplied to students along with a step-by-step guide for self-testing. **Please note that the self-test kits distributed by school are for the use of students only**, and not other household/bubble members. Twice-weekly tests are available for other household/bubble members via the following means:

- Through your employer if they offer testing to employees
- At a local test site
- By collecting a home test kit from a test site
- By ordering a home test kit online

There are three important aspects to the self-testing process. These are: conducting the test, reporting the result, and testing twice per week.

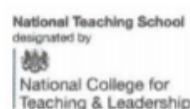
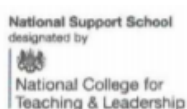
1. Conducting the test

Before carrying out a test, it is important that you [read this guide carefully](#). It contains step-by-step instructions on how to conduct the test properly. There is a link below to a video demonstrating how to self-test:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9XR8RZxKNo>

2. Reporting the result

There are two elements to reporting the result of the test. Firstly, results must be reported to the NHS. To do this, visit www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result or report by telephone by calling **119**. Secondly, results must be reported to school. This can be done at [this link](#), or via the pop up on our school website <https://www.st-wilfrids.org/>.



Northern Saints
Teaching School Alliance



Bishop Chadwick
Catholic Education Trust

Excellentia per fidem, per scientiam, per adiuvatum

3. Testing twice per week

The NHS outlines that these tests should be carried out twice per week, a minimum of three and a maximum of five days apart. We advise that students take their test on **Sunday and Wednesday evenings**.

We thank you in advance for your support with this important strategy for helping to keep our community safe.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs R Maxwell
Assistant Headteacher