

8th June 2021

Re: Important- changes to COVID testing

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you will be aware the Delta variant of COVID 19 continues to cause concern nationally and locally. As a result, Public Health England have revised their instructions on contact tracing, self-isolation and PCR tests. **Please ensure you are familiar with the information given below.** As ever, if you have any questions about COVID testing, please feel free to contact the school.

PCR tests for close contacts of positive cases

Close contacts of people with positive PCR tests are now required to get a PCR test as well, rather than just self-isolating. If you or your child is contacted by NHS track and trace or the school to inform you that they are a close contact of a positive case your household must self-isolate immediately and book a PCR test as soon as possible. The household need to continue with a 10 day self-isolation period regardless of your test result. If your child's PCR test is positive, a new self-isolation period may trigger, and your household should isolate until the date provided by the NHS. Your child's close contacts will then also be asked to take a PCR test and so forth. If your child is self-isolating for this reason at any point, please ensure you notify the school immediately by emailing head@kingsschoolhove.org.uk

Positive lateral flow test results

If your child receives a positive Lateral Flow Test (home test) they must get a PCR test to confirm the result and should self-isolate until the result is known. If the PCR test is negative and that PCR test was taken within two days of your child's positive lateral flow test they can stop isolating. If the confirmatory PCR result is positive or your child's PCR test was taken more than two days after your lateral flow test, they should continue to self-isolate for 10 days. Again- please ensure the school is notified in this situation.

Home testing

All staff and students are asked to continue with home testing (lateral flow) and reporting results via www.testregister.co.uk and NHS track and trace. Lateral flow testing is essential for identifying asymptomatic cases in the community and stopping the spread of COVID. **Please remember- everyone can carry COVID 19. If you have had a vaccine, you are less likely to get seriously ill from the virus, but you can still carry and pass on COVID to other people.** Home tests should be completed on Sunday and Wednesday evenings and reported through TestRegister (so the school is notified) and NHS track and trace (for national contact tracing). If you have any problems using either of these sites, or if you need additional test kits please contact the school.

Safety at school

A reminder that the only change to our COVID protocols this term is that masks are no longer required in communal areas. Staff and students should still continue to observe our other safety measures, including hand washing and hygiene routines, the one way system and social distancing.

Thank you all for your continued understanding and support of the school and our community during these difficult times.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sarah Price', written in a cursive style.

Sarah Price
Headteacher