



SIR THOMAS FREMANTLE SCHOOL

A CO-EDUCATIONAL SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS AGED 11-19

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16th March 2021

Dear parents and carers,

Re: Covid-19 Testing Roll-out

It has been a week like no other! I never anticipated that schools would play this role and once again, schools meet these huge challenges. I am so proud of our students for their maturity and resilience in self-administering the tests. Well done to all students. We will have conducted over 1000 tests by the time you receive this letter, with a further 700 or so to go. I am also hugely grateful to the volunteers, who continue to play a significant role in our programme: Lindsay Lerner, Lena Mansfield, Lauren Windsor, Ollie Bramley, Sarah Hunter and Josephine Timmins. Thank you for your fantastic support and hard work. I would also like to thank school staff who have supported with testing: our reception team, our site team and teachers who have enabled our plans to run smoothly.

Special thanks must also go to Kate Duckmanton, our Science Technician, who has expertly led the testing programme in school. We are very lucky to have such a fantastic team. This really has been a team effort that highlights the strength in our school community. An outstanding achievement for everyone involved.

The Department of Health and Social Care announced that all households with children of school age can test themselves twice a week at home. This means that parents can access home testing kits for everyone in their household and support bubbles.

The twice-weekly test kits can be accessed:

- via employers - if they offer testing to their employees
- at a local test site
- by collecting a home test kit from a test site
- by ordering a home test kit online

Unfortunately, schools are not allowed to provide parents with testing kits allocated to the school for use by students and staff. More details about this initiative can be found here:

[Schools, nurseries and colleges testing: order coronavirus \(COVID-19\) rapid lateral flow home test kits - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/schools-nurseries-and-colleges-testing-order-coronavirus-covid-19-rapid-lateral-flow-home-test-kits)



Students will start to bring their test kits home this week to commence the home testing programme. Tests are to be conducted twice per week and should be between 3-5 days apart. The kits give clear guidance about how to administer the test and then how to report the result. Can we ask that you support your child in completing the test accurately and in line with the instructions supplied with each kit. We are asking that parents only report positive cases to the school. You must still report all outcomes to the NHS. Please continue to follow NHS published guidance should your child or family member develop any COVID-19 symptoms.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Neale Pledger
Headteacher

