

13 January 2021

Dear parents and carers,

COVID-19 Testing – Weald of Kent Grammar School

As you know, all secondary schools in England have been asked to set up lateral flow testing centres for students and staff. The Government wishes to use these tests to identify people who have COVID, but are asymptomatic, and to reduce the number of students who need to self-isolate if they come into contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19.

We will be using lateral flow Devices (LFDs) which will give us a result within 30 minutes.

Please note if you experience any Covid Symptoms you should isolate and book a PCR test via the normal route – students and staff must not come in to school to get tested if they have any symptoms.

Testing Centre:

The Mezz (above the dining room, Tonbridge), Activity Studio (next to the sports hall, Sevenoaks). Please note, only the Tonbridge testing centre will be open for the time being.

Testing days:

Key worker and vulnerable students:

Every Monday at 8.30am prior to registration.

Testing Process:

Registration

At the registration desk, students will receive a test kit box with their printed name card in. Students must confirm their name is correct, registration assistants will confirm consent has been given.

They will be allocated a testing booth and processing desk to go and take their test.

Registration Assistants will give an overview of how the student should complete the test.

Testing

Test Assistants will monitor the testing area and the individual testing booths.

Test Assistants will support students if they need help to administer their tests, there will be clear instructions at each booth.

Once the test is completed, all items (apart from test result pad) should be discarded by the student in the bins provided.

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Students will then take their test to the allocated processing desk – they must leave the test box on the desk, ensuring their name card is in the box. They must then leave immediately via the clearly signposted exit.

Result Recording

Once the student has completed their test, they must bring the test pad to their allocated processing desk.

We will not contact you to inform you of a negative result.

If a student has a positive test:

- 1) They will be isolated whilst parents or carers are contacted.
- 2) Parents or carers must book them a PCR test asap.
- 3) If the PCR test is positive, the student and their family must isolate at home for 10 days. The school must be informed.
- 4) If PCR test is negative, the student can return to school and continue with the weekly testing programme.
- 5) Close contacts can either isolate at home for 10 days or can continue to come into school and be tested on a daily basis for 7 days.

In order to proceed with the testing, we need your consent for both the testing, collection (and use) of data to support testing. If you are happy to give consent, we will include your child in the testing cycle. If not, they can still attend school as normal but you need to be aware that in the event of a confirmed positive case from within their close contacts, they will need to isolate at home for 10 days.

Attached to this letter is a visual explanation of the process, together with the consent form.

If your child is attending school as part of the Key Worker provision, please ensure your response is received no later than Friday 15 January. Otherwise please ensure you have emailed responses by Friday 22 January 2021. If we do not receive a response, we will assume you do not consent to participation. All completed consent forms should be sent to covidtest@wealdgs.org.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs E Bone
Headteacher