

18th March, 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Home Testing

Further to Government requirements, the school will now move to lateral flow home testing for students.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for the support you have given us so far with regards to testing at school. We appreciate your co-operation in consenting for the tests to take place and our students have behaved impeccably adjusting to this new regime within school.

However, this phase of lateral flow testing (LFT) comes to an end on Thursday 18th March and with effect from Sunday 21st March, we will require you to home test your child and details are as follows:

How do I collect the tests?

Two test boxes and an instruction booklet will be handed out to each student on Thursday 18th and Friday 19th March. For those students who are currently at home self isolating, they can collect their tests on their first day back in school after the isolation period has ended.

How does my child take the test?

There are clear step by step instructions on how to self-administer the test included in the test kit. The test must be carried out with adult supervision or the adult may conduct the test if necessary. There are video guides available here to walk you through self-testing step by step [How to do a COVID-19 Self Test \(rapid antigen test\) - YouTube](#) and the Government website also gives demonstration videos and instructions in alternative languages www.gov.uk/covid19-self-test-help

When does my child take the test?

Your child should be tested twice weekly on a Thursday evening (before 9pm) and on a Sunday morning (before 1pm). They should not eat or drink for 30 minutes before the test. **The results should be reported to school and the NHS without delay** to support contact tracing and infection control.

How do we report the results?

You must report all results (positive, negative and void) to the NHS and to school. There are instructions on how to report your result to the NHS in the instruction booklet and here is the link for the school reporting form:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=UTeH7weIjkS2mO4DGypXkmqjYF7NtRHm5oObWkpK-BUOTMzOfk2MTVWRFhKNE9WVDZVWkNCUEE0My4u>

[Report a COVID-19 test result - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/report-a-covid-19-test-result)

Please remember to report results to **BOTH** links.

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What if my child is positive?

You **MUST** report it to the NHS and school without delay using the forms. Contact the school via phone 01527 526800 or email office@arrowvaleacademy.co.uk to also confirm the positive result. You should immediately follow isolation guidance and book a confirmatory PCR test here:

[Get a free NHS test to check if you have coronavirus - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

What do I do if I run out of tests?

You will have enough tests to take you through until the 8th April (during the Easter break) however, you will still be required to test over Easter and we will endeavour to supply you with further tests before the students break up.

Thanks once again for your co-operation with this. By participating in these tests, we are ensuring that any asymptomatic students and staff are isolated to prevent the further spread of Covid-19. As a school we are doing all we can to create a safe environment for the education of our students.

Yours sincerely



Ian Mellor
Principal