



## Message to pupils and parents / guardians from the Second Master

Dear Pupils,

Thank you to all of you for your continued support and participation in the on-going Covid-19 self-testing. It has been hugely reassuring to help keep our school community and your own households safe.

I write regarding plans and changes going forward:

- a. You will now be issued with similar (but different) lateral flow tests **issued freely** by [HM government / NHS](#).
- b. HM government / NHS now requires all staff and pupils to continue twice-weekly testing, registering results **throughout the holiday** and before returning safely next term. This is to help the country monitor infection rates and thereby help keep rates low. You will be issued with sufficient test kits to get you through the holiday and back safely to College next term. You will then be issued with your next batch in the first week of next term.
- c. These new tests require both a [single nasal swab AND a throat swab](#) (the tests you have been doing up until now only required a double nasal swab). Before doing the first new test of this kind, do please [watch the video](#) on this site as well as carefully following the NHS printed instructions you will receive with your tests. Swab your throat (using a light / torch; do not touch your tongue) before your nose! Swabbing gets and feels easier, each time you do it.
- d. Mix your swab sample for **15 seconds** (previously 10) in the collection tube and only put **2 drops** (previously 3) of the mixed solution carefully onto the testing cartridge / cassette sample well.
- e. Wait for **30 minutes** (previously 10-20) before reading and registering your result.
- f. The last point of difference is that you must, on each occasion, [register your result with the NHS](#) (previously done by the school), as well as please registering your result with the College via this form [PUPIL - record your covid test result here](#).
- g. As before, if you test positive, please follow [self-isolation rules](#) but do also [book a PCR test to confirm](#)

With thanks and best wishes for a restful (and productive if you are sitting assessments next term) holiday and a happy Easter.

### IMPORTANT AND HELPFUL FAMILY SAFETY INFO

Your [family households are now eligible to obtain free lateral flow tests](#) from the NHS / HM govt., by nature of you being school pupils.

We encourage them to use this service. Results are recorded with the NHS in the same way but they obviously must not register their results with the school (as they are not pupils or staff).