

John Masefield High School and Sixth Form Centre

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10 March 2021

Dear students, parents and carers

Details of home testing arrangements for students

We have been really impressed by how students have engaged with Covid-19 testing at school and are delighted that over 90% of our students have taken up the opportunity to take part in school testing. This really has made a positive contribution to keeping themselves, their family and the whole school community as safe as possible.

Our testing team are on track to complete all 2nd and 3rd in-school tests by the end of Monday 15 March and will be giving out home testing kits as students complete their 3rd test.

How the tests work

Students should conduct the test before coming into school, twice a week, ideally in the morning. We do appreciate the addition of this into already busy morning routines might be quite a challenge, and if it suits family life better for students to take the test the night before, this is absolutely fine. Students up to the age of 17 should self-test and report with adult supervision. Students aged 18 or over should self-test and report with assistance if needed. The lateral flow device tests supplied do not require laboratory processing and can provide a quick result in around 30 minutes. Comprehensive guidance on self-testing is contained in the 'Instructions for Use' leaflet which will be provided with the test kit. Please read and follow these instructions carefully. There is also a useful video of how to administer the test www.gov.uk/covid19-self-test-help. If you need a reminder of how to do your swab, please watch our JMHS video <https://youtu.be/aiFzbVP6P9o>.

Logging the tests

Once you have conducted each test, you need to log the results twice:

1. Online with the government test and trace site at www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result
2. You will also need to inform the school of the result by completing a short form, using this link [Student test result reporting form](#)

If you receive a positive result

If the result of the lateral flow test is positive, your child must isolate at home and take a confirmatory PCR test <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>. Everyone else in the household also needs to self-isolate. Please also inform the school by either phoning Reception or emailing admin@jmhs.hereford.sch.uk as we will need to identify close contacts and ask them to self-isolate.

If the confirmatory PCR is positive, your child, your household and close contacts will need to isolate for 10 full days from the lateral flow test result and follow government guidelines. If the PCR test result is negative, your household and close contacts can stop self-isolating and your child can return to school providing no one in the household has any symptoms.

Consent/Privacy

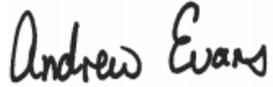
Once parents, carers and students understand the testing process and read the privacy notice attached, if they choose to participate, they are committing to self-administer the test and provide their results to NHS Test and Trace. Results should also be shared with JMHS as above to support local contact tracing.

Students who decline to participate can still attend school if not symptomatic.

Students who decline to participate in this testing programme should follow the usual national guidelines on self-isolation and get tested if they show symptoms.

We thank you for your ongoing support. If you do have any questions or need any further information about the home testing programme, please contact myself, Rebecca French (Team Leader) or Angela Griffith (Covid-19 Coordinator) through admin@jmhs.hereford.sch.uk.

With best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew Evans". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A'.

Andrew Evans
Headteacher