

19<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Covid update Test and Trace support payments**

Many thanks for your continued support with the Covid testing programme. Nationally, the programme has been deemed a success and guidance from the Department for Education instructs staff and students to continue to home test into Module 5 where possible.

We are currently expecting a delivery of home test kits and our hope is that they arrive by the end of this week. Should this not be the case, we will put out correspondence by the beginning of next week with our plans for testing. In the meantime, please see below the guidance that we will continue to follow.

We will again be issuing students, who are participating in the programme, with two packs of home test kits each containing three tests as well as an instruction leaflet version 1.3.2 so they have sufficient resources to continue testing for the beginning of Module 5. These test kits will be issued by Pastoral Learning Mentors during week beginning 19<sup>th</sup> April. Please continue to test and report the result to the NHS and LSST twice weekly. This can now be done easily from the student SharePoint home page where both the NHS and LSST link can be found. Please also contact your child's Pastoral Learning Mentor or Head of Year should they test positive.

### **Face coverings**

It was announced over the holiday that the guidance for the wearing of facemasks will continue to be in place until at least the 17<sup>th</sup> May. Therefore, the routines and expectations that were in place last module remain the same.

### **LFD testing followed by PCR test**

The Government have now updated their guidance to say that any positive LFD test, whether taken at home or in the Academy, should now be followed by a confirmatory PCR test. If the PCR test result is negative, your child, as well as any identified close contacts, will be able to return to the Academy.

### **Test and Trace support payments**

You may have heard about Test and Trace support payments. These payments are to begin after the Easter holiday and are for parents or carers who need to stay at home to look after their child who has been told to self-isolate, are unable to work as a result and consequently lose income. If you are on a low income and you need to

**Headteacher:** Mrs J Hopkinson

**The Priory Academy LSST**, Cross O' Cliff Hill, Lincoln, Lincolnshire, LN5 8PW

**Tel:** 01522 889977 **Email:** [generalenquiries@priorylsst.co.uk](mailto:generalenquiries@priorylsst.co.uk) **www.priorylsst.co.uk**

The Priory Academy LSST is part of The Priory Federation of Academies Trust. For further information please contact:

The Priory Federation of Academies Trust, Cross O' Cliff Hill, Lincoln LN5 8PW **Telephone:** 01522 889977

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take time off work to care for your child while they are self-isolating, you may be eligible for financial support from your local authority through the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme.

If you are eligible, you will receive a £500 payment from your local authority in addition to any benefits and Statutory Sick Pay you receive currently. If you are unsure which local authority you should claim from, you can check on Find your Local Council on GOV.UK: <https://www.gov.uk/find-local-council>

You can see the full eligibility criteria for the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme and find out how to apply at this link [Claiming financial support under the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

If you think you meet the eligibility criteria listed above and would like to apply to your local authority for a payment from the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme, you should contact Mrs A Thatcher at [athatcher@prioryacademies.co.uk](mailto:athatcher@prioryacademies.co.uk) who will provide you with a letter to share with your local authority to support your application. **You will not be able to make an application for a payment from the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme without this letter of support.**

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

As ever, please do contact Main Reception who will direct you to the relevant person should you have any queries.

Yours faithfully

Mrs A Thatcher  
Senior Leader

