



THE PRIORY ACADEMY  
**LSST**

10<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Thank you to all our students and their families who have supported our return to the Academy. I am pleased to announce our schedule of testing has been successful; our sincerest thanks to you for your cooperation and to our many wonderful volunteers who have given up hours of their time to support the academy community.

As you will be aware through our previous communications, as well as recent government announcements, secondary-age school students are eligible to undertake home testing for Covid-19, using lateral flow device tests (LFDs), once they will have completed three LFD tests on site as part of the return to on-site learning. **No home testing should take place before Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021.** If your child has undertaken testing in the Academy, we will automatically include them within the home testing programme too; separate consent is not required, as the tests will be completed at home. Home testing kits will be given to students when they register for their third test in the Academy. Therefore, as from Thursday this week, some students (who were tested first last Friday) will be undertaking their third test; we ask these students to remind the registration staff that they require their home testing kit. If for any reason you do not wish your child to be involved in the home testing programme, would like to arrange an alternative way of collecting the home test kits or would prefer to continue with on-site testing, please confirm this with your child's Pastoral Learning Mentor by Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

Two home testing kits will be given. Each box contains three tests each as well as an instruction leaflet version 1.3.2. Your child should bring these home to you and share the information with you. It is important you are aware of some key information which is detailed below and that you read carefully and understand the instructions provided within the kits. If you do have any questions or concerns please follow the guidance included with the LFD testing kits or contact the Academy. If it is a medical emergency, that requires an immediate response, you should seek support by calling the appropriate medical service / response i.e. 111 or 999.

#### **When should the tests be taken?**

Children will need to carry out twice-weekly testing at home (three to four days apart) before coming into the Academy in the morning.

#### **Who are the tests for?**

Tests are only for the use of the person assigned the kits; they should not be taken or used by anyone else.

#### **Can children and young people swab themselves?**

No children below the age of 11 should be tested using the LFD home test kits. Secondary pupils aged 11 should have the test administered by an adult. Pupils aged 12-17 should be supervised by an adult but can swab themselves.

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

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### **Is there more help or guidance on what to do?**

The government has asked us to share this link with you, which you may find helpful: [Step by step guide to COVID-19 self-testing - YouTube](#)

### **How do we report the result and to whom?**

You will need to report your results, even if negative or void, to NHS Test and Trace using the following link: [Report a COVID-19 test result - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#); or by phone (number in test kit instructions).

It is important that you report your result to the Academy as well. The easiest way to do this is by completing this Microsoft Forms link ([Priory Academy LSST Student- Home Lateral Flow Test - Reporting Results](#)) If you are unable to access this, please contact the Academy reception.

### **What happens if we get a void result?**

Take another LFD test. If you receive two void results in a row, you should book a PCR test. [Get a free NHS test to check if you have coronavirus - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

### **What happens if we get a positive result?**

Begin isolation alongside the household and arrange a PCR test. [Get a free NHS test to check if you have coronavirus - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) Follow all government guidance regarding isolation and gain further medical advice if required. **In addition to confirming your result to the Academy using the form above please also make urgent contact with your child's Pastoral Learning Mentor or Head of Year so close contact tracing can be undertaken.**

### **What happens if we get a negative result?**

You can continue to attend the Academy but must follow all current guidance and continue to follow social distancing and good hygiene procedures.

### **When will we receive the next set of tests?**

These will be issued to children once the first six tests have been used and within the timeframe of testing. I will send further information regarding how these will be distributed next week.

### **Should my child take part if they have tested positive for Covid-19 in the past 90 days?**

If your child has tested positive (through a PCR test) in the past 90 days, they do not have to take part in the testing process, but they may do so if they wish. However, if they do take part and they receive a positive test result from an LFD test, they will have to isolate in line with the guidance and arrange a PCR test. If your child is identified as a close contact they will be asked to isolate, irrespective of whether they have previously tested positive or not.

### **Can other people in our household use LFD testing?**

The LFD home test kits provided from school should only be used by the children to whom they are issued and by whom they are intended to be used. If wider households wish to take part in LFD testing further details can be found at: [All households with children of school age to get 2 rapid COVID-19 tests per person per week - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

### **Participation and Data Protection**

All participation in testing is voluntary, once you have understood the testing process and have read the privacy notice. The student privacy notice can be found [here](#). It can also be found on the Trust [website](#), along with the other privacy notices. If you choose to participate you are committing to self-administer the test and report your results via the NHS Test & Trace digital platform and to your education setting.

Before taking your test, you must do two things at home:

1. Read the **privacy notice** to understand what will happen with your data.
2. Make sure you have a copy of and have read and understood the new **Instructions for Use v1.3.2**, ensuring it is the correct version

### **Incident Reporting**

If there are any issues with tests that could potentially impact the quality or safety of testing, raise a 'yellow card' as detailed below. You can also speak to the Academy for support.

***This is not for seeking immediate medical care. Medical care should be sought through the usual route of contacting 111 or 999.***

**Non-clinical issue** - For incidents occurring at home, participants are advised to report any issues (something damaged, missing or difficult to use in the kit, unable to log result etc) to 119.

*Examples of clinical issues are a swab breaking in the mouth; bleeding; allergic reaction on using the kit, etc. An example of a non-clinical issue would be missing items from a test kit.*

**Inform the Education Setting** - Participants should inform their education setting about ongoing test-related problems, so that the Academy can check if this is a wider issue across other users.

### **Other important points to remember:**

Having a negative LFD test does not mean that we can relax our approach to social distancing, good hand and respiratory hygiene. All these measures remain extremely important and must continue to be followed.

This asymptomatic testing programme does not replace current guidance for those with symptoms or those identified as a close contact of a positive case. Anyone with symptoms, whether they are involved in this programme or not, should book a free NHS test and follow government self-isolation guidance until the results of their test are known.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact our reception team at the Academy or your child's Pastoral Learning Mentor or Head of Year should you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Hopkinson  
Headteacher