

The Federation of Heathfield and St Francis Schools



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Executive Headteacher
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Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you and your families are staying safe and well.

Further to my letter last week, I cannot tell you how much we are looking forward to seeing the vast majority of our pupils and students on Monday. We have been working hard to make sure we are ready and we have updated our risk assessment, which you can find in the coronavirus section on the websites.

I wanted to alert you to the following information, published by the Government this week.

Asymptomatic testing information for parents and adults in households with children at school or college

NHS Test and Trace announced earlier this week, that all adults in households with school and college age children without symptoms can now access regular rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. Test kits can either be collected or ordered online, as set out below.

Undertaking regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing helps reduce transmission of the virus. Parents and other adults in households with children at school or college, who do not have symptoms, can now access regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. This includes childcare and support bubbles.

Tests are fast, easy and completely free. There are different ways for a household, childcare or support bubble to collect their test to take at home, twice-weekly:

- *through your employer, if they offer testing to employees;*
- *by collecting a home test kit from a local test site – anyone aged 18 or over can collect 2 packs of 7 tests; or*
- *by ordering a home test kit online – please do not order online if you can access testing through other routes, this frees up home delivery for those who need it most.*

If you have any queries about the tests, and you live in England, please call 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day from 7am to 11pm.

Children of primary school age (and below) without symptoms are not being asked to take a test.

We will shortly be receiving rapid coronavirus home testing kits for secondary aged pupils at St Francis. As you know, we haven't been testing pupils in school because the test has to be self-administered. However, should any of you wish to support your child undertaking these tests at home, please contact the school next week. Thank you.

Lastly, as a reminder, the parent/carer drop off and pick up times are stated below. Please can I ask you to stick rigidly to these times so that we can manage the beginning and end of the day safely. Those of you with specific arrangements should continue with these.

Heathfield: Drop off at 9.30am; pick up at 3.15pm

St Francis: Drop off at 9.15am; pick up at 3.00pm

Please take care and have a restful weekend.

Yours sincerely



Rachel Weldon
Executive Headteacher