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Interim Co-Headteachers:

Ms Charlotte Hames and Mrs Christine MacInnes

March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Lateral Flow Device Home Testing Kits

The government has recently announced that all secondary aged students will be offered regular coronavirus Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing kits so that they are able to test themselves at home.

Up to one in three people who have COVID can spread the virus without knowing as they are asymptomatic. To reduce the spread of the virus and to do our best to keep all members of our community and their families safe, we are encouraging all students to take part in testing to identify those individuals who have COVID, but do not know because they have no symptoms (asymptomatic).

Brentside students can support this effort by carrying out tests at home twice every week. We recommend that home tests are carried out on Sunday and Wednesday of every week.

Testing students at home

LFD testing kits will be provided to students after they have been tested three times at school, since Monday 8 March.

Students will receive two boxes of home-test kits, each containing three tests. They will also be given a leaflet advising how to take the test and report the result. In addition, please see the YouTube link below for the NHS Guide on home testing.

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvaBZskxS7tzQYIVq7lwH5uxAD9UrSzGJ>

The result of each test must be reported using the NHS Test and Trace self-report website (you may find it helpful to know the School post code W7 1JJ): <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>

Please alert us by telephone if your child records a positive LFD test result so that we can support you with the next steps and take prompt action to identify potential close contacts within the community in order to prevent the potential spread of the virus.

If a student has a positive LFD test result from a home-test kit, they will need to stay at home and self-isolate as per the government guidelines. If the result of the test is void, they will need to do another test that day.

Taking part

We wish to emphasise that taking part in this testing is voluntary and that non-participation in this process is not a barrier to attending school.

Brentside High School strongly encourages all our students to take part in this national testing programme.

Please contact the school (info@brentsidehigh.ealing.sch.uk) if you have any questions about home testing.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs MacInnes and Ms Hames
Interim Co-Headteachers