



Midhurst Rother College

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

9 September 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

Home testing kits

The health and safety of every member of our school community remains our priority as the College begins a new academic year and has now welcomed back all students for face-to-face teaching.

To support the thousands of tests carried out on site, the DfE has requested that all schools and colleges distribute asymptomatic testing kits for home use to all consenting staff and students (this will be reviewed by the government at the end of September). Therefore, your child(ren) will be bringing home these kits at the end of this week, so that home testing can begin as of Monday next week.

For this to happen, and for us to efficiently track and distribute home test kits, we will assume that the consent status remains the same for your child(ren) as it was for asymptomatic testing in school. If this has changed in any way (either you have not given consent and now want to or you have given consent and would like to withdraw it) please can you let your child's Pastoral Leader know so that we can update our records accordingly. Alternatively, this can be done via the Arbor app. If there has not been a change, you do not need to contact us.

It is recommended that home testing occurs twice a week, every 3 to 4 days. It is also recommended that students should be tested in the morning before making their journey to College. This may not always be possible, and some families may choose to test in the evening when there is more time available. Ideally, a home test routine would see a test occurring on Monday and Thursday morning each week.

It is worth noting that the test kits that will be distributed currently require a double throat and single nasal swab. This is different to the recent tests that were conducted in College. We will keep you updated as to any changes to this, as new supplies may just require a double nasal swab.

A comprehensive video on how to complete the current testing process at home can be found here [\(10\) How to do a COVID-19 Self Test \(rapid antigen test\) - YouTube](#).

Before taking your first test, I would remind you to read the privacy notice located on our website: [Privacy Notice - model school and college testing.pdf \(mrc-academy.org\)](#).

When taking any test, please read the instructions for use and record the details of your test kit so that the result can be logged on the government website: [Report a COVID-19 rapid lateral flow test result - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) and with us via our Microsoft Form: [MRC Home testing results form](#).

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If there is a clinical incident which leads to, or has potential for harm (a swab breaking in the mouth, bleeding, allergic reaction on using kit etc.), participants are advised to report it on <https://coronavirussyellowcard.mhra.gov.uk>. This is not for seeking immediate medical care. Medical care should be sought through the usual route of contacting 111 or 999.

For non-clinical incidents occurring at home (likely to be missing items from a test kit), participants are advised to report any issues (something damaged, or missing or difficult to use in the kit, unable log result etc.) to 119. You should also let us know so that we can check to see if this is a wider issue across other users.

Please prepare for your child to receive their first batch of home tests shortly, and thank you in advance for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Lloyd'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'P' and a long, sweeping tail.

Mr Phillip Lloyd
Vice Principal Culture & Character