

16 March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Up to one in three people who have COVID-19 can spread the virus without knowing. This is because they have no symptoms. To reduce the spread of the virus, we need to identify those individuals. We can do this in schools by carrying out tests at home twice every week, 3-4 days apart.

[The Government has recently announced that](#) all secondary and college aged students will be offered tests to make the return to school safer for everyone.

Testing students at home

Students will be issued home testing kits from the academy following their third test on site. We would like students to take their tests before school on Mondays and Thursdays.

You will need to tell the academy the result of each test by completing an online form [here](#).

Tests are free of charge. Students will receive a pack of 3 tests in a box with a leaflet on how to take the test and report the results.

Make sure your child has enough time to do the test before coming in to school. Preferably this would be in the morning. However, we understand that for some people this may be challenging. Therefore, tests can be taken the evening before school if needed. You need to report test results.

Taking the test

Students should take the test before coming into school, twice a week. We will give students a leaflet with instructions on how to do the test with the kit. There is also a useful video to show you and your child how to take the test [here](#).

[Help and support is available](#), including instructions in different languages on how to test and report the results.

There is no need to keep used test equipment after the test result has been reported. You can put it in your normal bin (household waste).

This does not replace symptomatic testing. If your child has symptoms, they should self-isolate immediately, a PCR test should be booked and national guidelines followed.

What should you do after the test?

If your child tests **positive**, they should self-isolate immediately in line with NHS Test and Trace guidance for 10 days. You should [order a confirmatory PCR test](#) immediately.

If the result of the test is **unclear (void)** you should do another test.

Outwood Grange Academies Trust, a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales with company number 06995649.

Registered office address: Potovens Lane, Outwood, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF1 2PF.

VAT number: 158 2720 04. Outwood Grange Academies Trust is an exempt charity.

A list of Directors' names is open to inspection at our registered office.

You need to report the result to both [NHS Test and Trace](#) and to the academy as detailed above.

Negative and void results should be reported to both [NHS Test & Trace](#) and the academy. A negative result does not guarantee that they are not carrying the virus. So, individuals should continue to follow measures to reduce transmission such as wearing a face mask, regularly washing hands and observing social distancing.

If you or anyone in your household gets symptoms of the virus you should follow [national guidelines on self-isolation and testing](#).

Why take part

Taking part in testing is voluntary and all students will be able to attend the academy whether they take part in testing or not.

I am strongly encouraging all students to take part. Testing at home will allow your child and other students to attend the academy as safely as possible.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Scruby', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Andy Scruby

Principal