

12 March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

We would like to thank you for your support this week as we have all returned to school. At what remains a particularly challenging time for us all, your children have shown, once again, that they are resilient and adaptable. We have been delighted with their attitude and approach. This has included their involvement in our Covid-19 asymptomatic testing programme.

Now that we have completed our in school Covid-19 testing for all students, future testing needs to take place at home. This is part of the government's plan for the easing of the national lockdown. Next week, we will issue home testing kits to all students. Whilst it is not compulsory to take part in this programme, we would encourage you to engage in this opportunity.

On Monday 15 March Y7, Y10 and Y11 will receive their home testing kits. Y8 and Y9 will receive theirs on Tuesday. We will issue the kits at the end of the school day. Please ask your child for the kit when they arrive home. The kit will contain 3 tests which should be carried out on: **Thursday 18 March**, **Monday 22 March and Thursday 25 March**. Each kit has full instructions about how to use the test and contains everything that you need.

Each time you complete a test you should report the result to NHS Track and Trace, as explained in the instructions that you will receive with the test kit. We also need you to report your test result to us at school on this form: <a href="https://forms.gle/ocmNFghKdNYvbBWW6">https://forms.gle/ocmNFghKdNYvbBWW6</a>

If when you use one of these tests, your child tests positive, please notify us by telephoning the school or send an email to hello@gra.hlt.academy. In the event of a positive result, your child will need to self-isolate in line with government guidance. They will also need to take a PCR test which can be organised here: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test">https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test</a>.

This testing programme relates to asymptomatic tests. If your child displays any symptoms of covid-19 at any time, they should self-isolate immediately according to government guidelines. Those with symptoms are also expected to order a test online or visit a test site to take a lab-based polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test to check if they have the virus. If any student displays symptoms in school, we will contact you so that they can be collected and a test organised. In the event of any positive test results, as previously, we will identify close contacts who need to isolate and will inform you.

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We would like to thank you again for your support with the wider reopening of school. It is so positive to have our students back in school where they belong!

Yours faithfully Emma Robins

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Principal