



Dear All,

Everyone enjoyed their first week back after the half term. We had fun on World Book Day on Thursday where we had a reading club, enjoyed sharing our favourite books and stories from when we were younger and exploring jobs and careers that involved books in our preparation for work session. We also resumed our carpentry workshops with Barnaby from Bee Urban which was great. Next Monday we will celebrate International Women's Day and on 19th March Red Nose Day. On Monday March 8th all students should return to schools and colleges in England so your journeys may be busier. Do give yourselves plenty of time and keep distancing safely.

Home Testing

Staff will no longer be testing twice each week at college but will move to twice weekly home testing. Our risk assessment has also been updated.

Testing information for students

Students returning to college will be offered tests at college three times next week if requested by their parent/carer. Those already at college will continue to be tested once a week next week. All students will be given packs for twice weekly home testing to start the week beginning Monday March 15th. We will let you know more information about sharing the home test results with us.

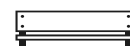
Asymptomatic testing information for parents and adults in households with children at school or college

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
- 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 call 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day from 7am to 11pm. Testing is voluntary, but strongly recommended to all who are eligible. Alongside the vaccine, washing hands, wearing face coverings, and maintaining social distancing, rapid testing plays a vital role in reducing transmission rates. Getting into the habit of regular testing as part of our everyday lives will help us all to play our part and do what we can to protect each other. As always do let us know if you have any questions or can help with anything,

Catriona





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