

1st May 2021
19:00

Dear Year 9 Y-half and some X-half Families,

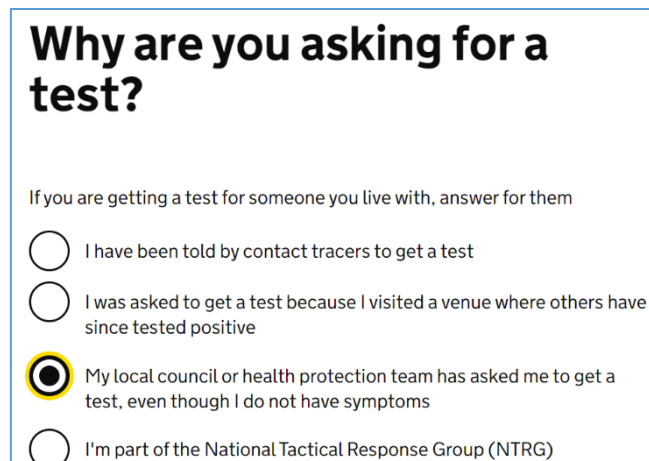
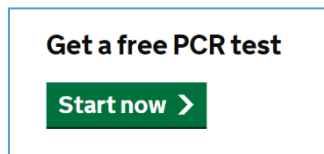
Re: EXTREMELY IMPORTANT MESSAGE – PCR TEST REQUIRED

We have received notification of another student in the Year 9 Y-half who has tested positive for Covid-19 using a PCR test. As we now have three cases in the same year group bubble, this is classed as an outbreak.

I have just been on the phone to the Health Protection Hub and they have said that **all 148 students and staff who have been asked to isolate must now take a PCR test** so that we can identify cases, contain them and prevent any further transmission. **PCR tests are the tests that are sent to a laboratory.** These are different to the 30 minute lateral flow tests that we have provided you. To book your child a PCR test, the link is:

<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

Please choose the following options when you arrive at the relevant pages:



Please email us at this email address if your child's test **comes back positive**:

covid.bbs@taw.org.uk

If the PCR test comes back negative, this **does not** mean that your child's isolation period ends.

As a reminder, these are the days and dates of isolation:

Students in Year 9 Y-half who were asked to isolate on 29th April 2021 will need to isolate for 10 days from yesterday until the 9th May 2021 (out of isolation on Monday 10th May 2021).

Students in Year 9 X-half who were asked to isolate on 29th April 2021 will need to isolate for 10 days from Thursday until the 8th May 2021 (out of isolation on Sunday 9th May 2021).

Students in Year 9 X-half who were asked to isolate on 30th April 2021 will need to isolate for 10 days from yesterday until the 9th May 2021 (out of isolation on Monday 10th May 2021).

Continued



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It is extremely important that your child stays in isolation for the whole duration.

Once again we reiterate that:

1. **If any member of your family develops any of the Covid symptoms and/or is tested positive for Covid-19 with a PCR test your whole household MUST isolate for 10 days.**
2. **If your child is tested positive with a lateral flow test, please do not send them into school and take them to a PCR testing centre as soon as possible. You must isolate until the PCR test results come back.**

The main symptoms of Covid-19 are as follows and a PCR test must be taken:

- A high temperature
- A continuous cough
- A loss of sense of taste or smell

Other possible symptoms of Covid-19 which you can also arrange your child to have a PCR test for if they are displaying symptoms are:

- Shortness of breath
- Loss of appetite
- Sore throat
- Headache
- Diarrhoea
- Nausea
- Vomiting

The whole school site has been ULV fogged and sanitized today, as it is every weekend, to ensure that it is safe for all students to return on Tuesday after the bank holiday weekend. Our internal procedures for keeping the school as Covid-secure as it can be, are extremely tight but even with these strict measures, if we have students or families not following isolation rules, even these strict measures will not be enough to protect our community from an outbreak.

Once again, I urge you to not break isolation rules – the implications for our community, not only the school community but also the Newport community, are huge.

Please **do not** send your children to school if they display any Covid-19 symptoms or if there is another member of the household who is displaying symptoms. This is the same for any households who have a member tested positive for COVID-19. **Please isolate at home for 10 days.**

Thank you to the 144 students who have been asked to isolate and their families. We will continue to work through the bank holiday weekend with the Health Protection Hub and send updates where appropriate.

Best wishes and stay safe,



Krissi Carter
Principal



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