



PARKSIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Headteacher:
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1st April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for supporting your child in carrying out twice weekly rapid COVID-19 testing at home. As you are probably aware, up to 1 in 3 people who have COVID-19 have no symptoms and could be spreading it without knowing. Getting into a regular habit of testing twice a week, 3-5 days apart, will help stop the virus spreading, keeping your family and friends safer.

Your child has been given lateral flow device test kits this week so they can **continue testing twice a week, at home, throughout the Easter school holidays**. Please make sure your child continues to test every Wednesday and Sunday evening, up to and including Sunday 18th April 2021. We will continue to send reminder texts. Additional kits will be provided on the first week back so that testing can continue during the summer term.

This does not replace testing for those with symptoms. If you have symptoms you must self-isolate immediately, book a PCR test and follow national guidelines.

Reporting results

It is really important that results of tests are reported online straight away, even if your child's result is negative or void. It's easy to do at www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result. Results can also be reported via telephone by calling 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day, 7am to 11pm.

It is important to keep a note of your child's results and share this with school by completing the form that can be accessed via the front page of the school website – www.parkside.worcs.sch.uk. We have now placed a QR code on the test boxes and if you scan the code with your telephone camera this will take you straight to the form.

Testing for parents, households and bubbles twice a week

A reminder that regular rapid testing is now also available for parents, their households and support or childcare bubbles. The government is encouraging all families to participate in twice weekly testing to help stop the spread.



As a school we establish and maintain an environment where children feel secure, are listened to and encouraged to talk.

Parkside Middle School is committed to safeguarding and the PREVENT strategy and promoting the welfare of children and young people. We expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Pupils learn to accept and uphold our fundamental British values.

Parents and other adults in the household can access tests by:

- Ordering tests online www.gov.uk/order-school-household-tests
- Getting an assisted test at work, if it is available
- Attending a test site to get tested (where you will be able to see how to take the test) or pick up tests to do at home.

To find out more on school household testing visit Households and bubbles of pupils, students and staff of schools and colleges: get rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk).

We continue to encourage everyone to take part in regular Covid-19 testing and please contact office@parkside.worcs.sch.uk if you have any questions or concerns about home testing.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'N Mills', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mr N Mills
Headteacher