



believe & achieve

10th September 2021

Dear Parent/Carers

Up to one in three people who have COVID-19 can spread the virus without knowing. This is because they have no symptoms and 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.

Student home testing

Today your child has been issued with a pack of 7 Covid-19 test kits with a leaflet explaining how to take the test and report the results.

If possible, we ask for you to support your child in taking these tests prior to coming to school on Monday and Thursday mornings. However, we appreciate that this may not always be possible therefore the tests can be taken on the previous evenings if needed.

[Help and support is available](#) on how to complete and report the results of these tests. Here you will also find video tutorials and information in alternative languages.

There is no need to keep used test equipment after the test result has been reported. You can dispose of this in your normal household waste.

Please be aware that home testing does not replace symptomatic testing. If you have symptoms, you should self-isolate immediately, book a [PCR test](#) and follow [national guidelines](#).

What should you do after the Lateral Flow test?

Students with a negative result:

A negative result does not guarantee that you are not carrying the virus. Therefore, you should continue to follow social distancing guidelines and other measures in place to reduce transmission such as regularly washing your hands.

Students with a void result:

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

Students with a positive test result will need to:

- self-isolate in line with the [stay at home guidance](#)
- [book a further test](#) to confirm the result.

Whilst awaiting the PCR result, students should continue to self-isolate.

Additionally, if your child has had a positive Lateral Flow Test you must inform the school by emailing our Attendance Officer LBarrettReynolds@poltair.cornwall.sch.uk.

If the PCR test is taken within the 2 days following the positive LFD result, and is negative, this will override the self-test LFD test and your child can return to school as long as they don't have any COVID-19 symptoms.

How to report each test result:

The result of each test needs to be reported via the NHS Test & Trace self-report website: <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result> (please report negative, positive and void results).

However, only **positive** tests need to be reported to the school. You should inform the school by emailing our Attendance Officer LBarrettReynolds@poltair.cornwall.sch.uk.

Why take part?

Taking part in testing is voluntary and all students will be able to attend school whether or not they take part in testing, however, I am strongly encouraging all students to take part. Testing at home will enable your child and other students to attend school as safely as possible.

If you, or anyone in your household, develops symptoms of the virus you should follow the [national guidelines](#) on self-isolation and testing. If you are fully vaccinated or aged under 18 years and 6 months, you will not be required to self-isolate if you live in the same household as someone with COVID-19. Please refer to [Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#) for more information.

Please contact our COVID Coordinator at covid@poltair.cornwall.sch.uk, or see the Frequently Asked Questions support guide on our website if you have any questions or concerns about home testing.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely



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