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Dear Parent

Re: Lateral Flow Testing at Home

Thank you for all the support that we have received through our lateral flow testing programme in school, it has run very smoothly thanks to the maturity shown by students and the sensitivity shown by staff and external volunteers. In particular, we would like to say a big thank you to the staff from Norfolk County Council who volunteered to support our programme.

We will now be moving to providing lateral flow tests for students to complete at home. We are confident that with your support, students will manage this process with ease. Even if your child has not participated in the testing in school, they may still access the home testing kits.

The main points to be aware of for home testing are as follows:

1. The Lateral Flow Tests are provided free of charge. Test packs contain 7 tests, enough for 3½ weeks of testing. Test kits will be given to students at the end of the day to bring home.
2. Direction from the Government is that test results must be reported to NHS Test and Trace using the guidance in the test pack, and reported to the school via <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>. This link is also available on the school website.
3. If your child tests positive at home from a lateral flow test, then they and all the members of the household, should self-isolate immediately, book a PCR test and inform the school. If the result of the PCR test is negative, they can return to school as normal.
4. They should test twice a week, 3-5 days apart. It only takes a few minutes to take the test and 20-30 minutes to wait for the result. Just before breakfast is a good time. For more information please look at the YouTube videos <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvaBZskxS7tzQYIVg7lwH5uxAD9UrSzGJ>.
5. Students should do the test themselves, but with adult supervision. The adult may help the student to take the test if they need support.
6. Testing is not compulsory – if your child does not want to participate they do not have to.
7. The tests that the school provide are for the named student only. Parents can access free tests from www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff or using the attached leaflet and letter from Norfolk County Council.
8. Lateral Flow Tests are for asymptomatic testing only. This means that the test is only taken by those who are not showing any of the symptoms of Coronavirus. For those displaying symptoms, ie. A high temperature, a new continuous cough, or loss or change in sense of smell or taste, should self-isolate and book a PCR test by calling 119.

If you would like your child to take part in the Lateral Flow Home testing, please complete this form <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=yu1GLt0A20uVy2z1Ys-7pHFQojhXt1HgnyMKrcQwkhUN1gyQzBQSDICVE5HS0ZDV0NROVdNRDFHOC4u>. If at any point you would like to withdraw your child from the programme, please let us know by completing the form again, withdrawing consent, this will mean that we will not issue tests after this point. For ease of access, the form will also be available on our website.

Also attached is the privacy notice, so that you know how your and your child's data is used in connection with the lateral flow testing programme.

If you have any questions, please contact enquiries@caisteracademy.org.uk.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. King'.

Assistant Principal – Operations