

21st May 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

You may have heard in the news of a new variant of concern that was first identified in India. A number of cases of the variant have been found in Ealing and other areas in London and the north west of England. There are concerns that this variant is more easily transmitted between people. The evidence is that the approved vaccines are very effective stopping those infected becoming seriously ill with COVID.

As part of wider activities to assess and contain the spread of the virus, the Council is working to identify if there has been any spread of COVID-19 in people who might not be displaying symptoms. Therefore, we are asking for all staff and pupils to take a COVID-19 PCR test.

Collecting a PCR test kit

Year 11 & 13 collect your test from main reception on Tuesday 25th May 2021 between 11am -1pm.

Returning the PCR test kit

Once you have completed the test it **must** be returned to the main reception on Wednesday 26th May 2021 between 11am -1pm.

Under 16? You must complete the following form.

Before we invite students to take the test, we do need your consent. In giving your consent to regular testing, you are consenting to your data being shared with NHS Track and Trace and a privacy notice is attached for your information in addition to some frequently asked questions related to data sharing in this instance. When you click the link below you will see the Office 365 log in window. Please ask your son/daughter to log onto their school Office 365 account.

[Click this link to complete the consent form](#)

What happens if my test result is positive?

You and your household only must self-isolate if you test positive or if you have Covid symptoms (a new continuous cough, a high temperature, a loss of sense of smell or taste). If anyone in your household needs support (financial, food or medicine) to self-isolate for 10 days, support is available. If you are a resident of Ealing, support is available by ringing the Ealing Together helpline on 020 8825 7170.



Dormers Wells High School

MATHS AND COMPUTING SPECIALIST SCHOOL

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Have you had Covid in the last 90days?

If you have test positive in the last 90 days please do not complete the PCR test. Please inform the school if this is the case using the MyEd app.

These PCR tests are different to the normal lateral flow tests used as part of the routine asymptomatic testing. By using PCR testing, positive results can be sent for genomic sequencing at specialist laboratories, helping us to identify variant of concern cases. All those who use twice-weekly rapid testing should continue to do so as normal.

I understand you might be concerned about this variant, which has been identified across the UK. It is very important everyone takes part in the **voluntary** PCR testing to stop any onward spread.

Eligible for the vaccine?

We would also strongly encourage anyone eligible for a vaccination to get your jabs to protect yourself, family and friends even if you have had Covid, as the vaccine will provide robust protection against any future infection. <https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus-vaccine>

Information in other languages can be found on the NHS website
<https://www.covid19.nhs.uk/translations.html>

Once again I thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

Ms R Walsh
HEADTEACHER



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