

23rd March 2021

Dear Parent / Carer,

Lateral Flow Device Testing for Households (Parent/carers)

As you are aware, households where there are primary and secondary aged children are able to access regular rapid lateral flow home testing kits. This means parents and carers can take an active role in reducing transmission rates for asymptomatic cases. This is particularly important where students are not accessing Lateral Flow Devices.

Anyone who wants to order a test on line can now do so here: [Order rapid lateral flow home test kits](#) Applicants will receive 7 tests that should normally arrive within 2 days.

Test and Trace Support Payment

Parents and carers of children who have been advised to self-isolate by their education setting or by NHS Test and Trace are now able to apply for a [Test and Trace Support Payment](#) or discretionary payment of £500, if they meet the eligibility criteria. The extension of the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme ensures that parents receive the financial support they need if they are unable to attend work due to childcare responsibilities.

Parents and carers should apply to their local authority to receive a payment. Applications for the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme are made **via the local authority in which the parent or carer resides, not the local authority where the school is situated**, if these are different.

To be eligible applicants must meet all of the criteria that:

- they are the parent or guardian of a child or young person in the same household and need to take time off work to care for them while they self-isolate. This is limited to one parent or guardian per household for the child or young person's self-isolation period
- they are employed or self-employed
- they cannot work from home while undertaking caring responsibilities and will lose income as a result



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- they meet all the other means-tested eligibility criteria for a Test and Trace Support Payment or locally determined criteria for a discretionary payment

That their child or young person:

- is aged 15 or under (or 25 or under with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHC)) and normally attends an education or childcare setting
- has been told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace or by their education or childcare setting because they have been identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19)

Lighthouse School will provide a letter to all parents or carers of children that are advised to self-isolate, to support their application to the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme.

Please ensure that you check your text messages and emails regularly for messages from school, as Covid continues to impact on school attendance and a bubble may be closed at any time.

Yours sincerely,

Emma Sullivan
Principal



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