

Monday, 13 December 2021

EAR/DM

Dear Parents and Carers

Covid-19 Asymptomatic Testing Centre

The Department for Education has requested that all secondary schools prepare to test their pupils for Covid-19 once, on-site, on return to school in January 2022. They have advised that testing continues to play a vital role in keeping COVID-19 out of schools and that testing all pupils in school boosts testing participation and helps reduce transmission after a period of social mixing over the school holidays. Therefore, we will be re-opening our Covid-19 Asymptomatic Test Centre for all of our students, prior to their return to school for the Spring Term, and this letter outlines the details for the one, on-return test.

The test centre will be open from Monday 10th to Wednesday 12th January 2022 and to ensure that all students remain safe until tested, we will be operating a staggered return to school for all.

Year Group:	Testing Date:	Return to School Date:
Year 7	Tuesday 11th January 2022	Wednesday 12 th January 2022
Year 8	Wednesday 12th January 2022	Thursday 13 th January 2022
Year 9	Wednesday 12th January 2022	Thursday 13 th January 2022
Year 10	Tuesday 11th January 2022	Wednesday 12th January 2022
Year 11	Monday 10 th January 2022	Tuesday 11th January 2022
Year 12	Tuesday 11th January 2022	Wednesday 12th January 2022
Year 13	Monday 10 th January 2022	Tuesday 11th January 2022

The table below details the testing dates for each year group and their return to school date:

Each student under the age of 16 will require parental consent and our Consent Portal will open on Monday 13th December 2021, closing on Thursday 6th January at 11:30am. Only students with consent will be allowed access to the test centre.

Once you have provided consent, your child does not need to register for their test in advance as we will complete that part of the process for them.

Unfortunately, due to the numbers we are testing, we are unable to alter the allocated date and times which will be provided or to register additional students. Also, we would like to remind you that this is an Asymptomatic Test Centre therefore your child should not attend if they are experiencing Covid symptoms; temperature, new / continuous cough, loss of taste or sense of smell. Additionally, if your child has received a positive PCR test result within 28 days of the date of their test with us, they should not attend for a test, and simply return to school on the date specified above for their year group.

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Test Centre Information

Your child should arrive to the Test Centre at the allocated date and time. This information will be sent to you before the end of this term. Please do not arrive any earlier than the allocated time as we have provided specific slots to allow for careful management of numbers.

If arriving to site by car, please follow the signs to our testing centre parking area which is the second turning on the right-hand side as you enter the school site. Staff car parking has been redirected on the day to allow for ample spaces. Whilst recommended not to, in the event you do arrive early, please ensure that your child does not attend the test centre until the allocated time.

The test centre will be situated in the Leisure Centre and your child should enter the centre through the fire exit of the main sports hall from the Leisure Centre car parking area. Marshalls will be available to guide those students who are unsure of where to go and we politely ask that parents / carers do not escort their child to or enter the test centre, but wait for them in the car park.

Upon arrival, your child will be directed to the Registration Desk to collect their unique bar code which they will need for identification purposes during the testing process.

Your child will then be directed to one of our testing bays where the test will be carried out.

Please be aware that whilst our team will not be administering the test (i.e. pupils are required to complete the test themselves), our staff are carefully trained to support as much as possible. In the event your child is unable to complete the test, they are free to return home without being tested.

Once the test has been completed, your child shall be directed out of the Test Centre and directed back to the car park. Children will not be permitted to enter the wider School grounds during their visit and should return home as soon as the test has been completed.

Your child does not need to wear uniform to attend the test centre.

The results of all tests administered on these dates will be recorded and submitted to NHS Test and Trace who will inform you of the result later that day. However, if your child receives a positive result we will inform you immediately.

Remote Learning

We expect all students to access remote learning this week prior to their return date. Students should access our remote learning provision via MS Teams and adopt their normal school timetable at home.

We hope the above provides you with useful information, however, if you do have any queries in relation to the content, please email <u>school.office@toothillschool.co.uk</u>.

Yours sincerely,

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Dr C Eardley Head of School