



8<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Students and Parents/Carers,

I do hope you are well.

We have had an extremely high uptake on our lateral flow offer and our systems are operating smoothly in school. Our students have arrived in school in a timely fashion for their lateral flow test and this has contributed hugely to the orderly nature of the process.

On the afternoon of Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> March, the Department for Education updated the guidance on lateral flow tests and the conditions under which confirmatory PCR tests (tests conducted at official testing centres) are needed.

Below, I highlight the changes announced.

- 1) A LFT **taken at school** by a member of staff or a student **should not have a follow up PCR test**. The positive case must self isolate for 10 days as well as contacts of that individual.
- 2) A LFT **taken at home** by a member of staff or a student, **will need a follow up PCR test**. As soon as LFT comes back positive, that person and identified close contacts should self isolate. **If the PCR test comes back negative**, then self-isolation should cease for everyone

The idea behind this is that the DfE decided that tests conducted at home are a bit less accurate than those completed when supervised within school.

As a reminder, when students and staff have had 3 supervised tests in school, home LFT can be used. Parents can order home lateral flow tests online by clicking this [link](#), or collect home testing kits from the test centres at Plymouth Guildhall and Plymouth Marjon between 1.30pm and 7pm, 7 days a week.

Please contact school as soon as you are aware that the home LFT has come back positive. **Taking home LFTs on a weekday** will help us to complete our close contact tracing in school.

**Simon Underdown.**  
**Headteacher.**



STAY  
SAFE



STAY  
LEARNING



STAY  
CONNECTED