



Blackfen School for Girls

Raising aspirations - releasing potential

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Dear parents/carers,

3rd March 2021

This communication provides information about the dates and times of testing for your daughter (year 12/13 daughter/son).

Test 1 – Appointment time (STUDENTS ARE NOT EXPECTED TO WEAR SCHOOL UNIFORM ON THE DAY OF THEIR FIRST TEST AND STUDENTS SHOULD LEAVE AFTER THEIR TEST)

For the first test, students should arrive at school at the appointment time specified. On arrival, they will be directed to the Sports Hall to wait and then be directed to the testing station (Performance Space) where they will wait socially distanced, for registration for their test. They will complete the test with the help of the trained test assistants and processors. Once they have done the test they can leave the school site. Again, they must maintain social distancing and go home direct from school. Results will be sent to the mobile phone contact number provided.

N.B. Where possible, students should not eat or drink 30 minutes before their allocated time as this may affect their test results.

If any student tests positive, we will notify parents first. They must then follow the rules for self-isolation, along with their household. We advise they have a follow up PCR test.

Only students who have consent should attend school for the first test. Please note that the appointment times cannot be changed. Face to face education for students will start the day after the first test, irrespective of whether you have been tested or not. On the days before their first test online learning continues. There is no online learning on their test day.

Test 2 and 3 – Appointment time (IN SCHOOL – STUDENTS WILL BE CALLED FOR THEIR TEST FROM THEIR CLASSROOMS)

Students who have consent will receive their second and third tests on the dates specified. *They should attend school at their normal start time or at the time specified if it is earlier.* They will be called down for their test at some point during the day and results will be notified direct to the mobile phone contact number provided.

Please note the following:

- Parents/carers cannot enter the school test site.
- Parents/carers can drop students off in the car park for the test **but** cannot wait due to parking restrictions.
- My child has tested positive for COVID-19 previously. Our advice in these circumstances is not to have a lateral flow test if they have had a positive test in the last 90 days. However, if you would like them to participate you should be clear that a positive result will mean the household will be required to repeat isolation. After 90 days has expired they can participate in testing, you will need to inform the school once they have reached the 90 days.

If you have still not provided consent, please can I urge you to do so as soon as possible. This is the link to the online consent form (<https://bit.ly/blackfencovidconsent>). A Guidance video and a poster on how to carry out a lateral flow test will be posted under the Covid-19 section of our school website, to give students an idea of what they will be required to do when in school and subsequently at home.

I appreciate you may still have some questions, a 'Frequently asked Questions' page will be set up on the Covid-19 page of the school website (Covid-19 testing information).

I would like to thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,



Matthew Brown
Head Teacher