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14 June 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

Surge testing - PCR tests coming home with your child/(ren) today

PCR tests will be sent home with your child/(ren) today. **Please can these be completed at home tonight and returned to school tomorrow morning.** Empty boxes will be placed at both the East and West entrances for students to drop them off on their way into school.

Please disregard the instructions in the box. Please register the test using this link:

https://test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/register-kit

This will allow you to state the email/mobile number to inform you of the result directly. The process for taking the test is very similar to the process for the lateral flow home tests - if you would like a reminder of the process, this is available on pages 11-15 of the instruction booklet. The principal difference in the process is that the end of the swab needs to be broken off to be able to fully place it inside the vial and secure the lid.

Results should be received within 2-3 days. Please only report the result to the school if it is positive. Any student taking the test as part of this surge testing scheme can continue to come into school while awaiting the results, as long as they remain symptom free and have not been asked to isolate for any other reason.

If your child is unable to complete and return the test within the specified timescales, you can take a test at a local testing centre. Details of local test centres are available <u>here</u>. Tests are recommended for anybody living, working or studying in certain postcodes in Reading. These are RG1 3^{**}, 5^{**}, 6^{**} and 7^{**}. No appointment is necessary.

Please contact us via the email address above should you have any questions or require any further information. My letter of Monday 7 June includes answers to some Frequently Asked questions and this is available on our website <u>here</u>. This measure has been put in place to keep our wider school community safe in the midst of increasing cases in the local area and we would like to thank you in advance for your co-operation.

We are expecting further guidance to be issued later tonight in respect of the government's roadmap and will be in touch as soon as possible to confirm how this will impact our plans for the rest of the academic year and to update you of any changes to our control measures.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Foster Business Manager Maiden Erlegh School in Reading

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