

Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form

Mr R James, Deputy CEO & Executive Headteacher
Dr C Cusick, Head of School



19 July 2021

Dear Parents/Carers and Students

I am writing to confirm the COVID-19 asymptomatic testing arrangements for the Autumn term which follow the guidance and recommendations from Essex County Council.

As children and young people return to the classroom, following the summer holidays and the further easing of restrictions, we need to be sure that potential COVID-19 cases are found as quickly as possible and measures put in place to prevent the virus spreading throughout the school community. From 16 August, if step 4 of the roadmap goes ahead, these measures will no longer include the self-isolation of close contacts if they are under age 18 or have had both doses of the vaccine. This makes regular testing even more important.

Testing Arrangements

Year 7 students will be offered two tests onsite at school to ensure they are confidently and correctly administering the tests, as they have not been offered them at primary school. Year 7 students will be invited into school to complete a test on Wednesday 1 September 2021 and then sent home in advance of their first day on Thursday 2 September 2021 and will undertake the second test at school on Monday 6 September 2021.

Whilst all other students in Years 8 - 13 should complete two tests at home before they return to school as follows:

- First test – Sunday 29 August 2021
- Second test – Wednesday 1 September 2021

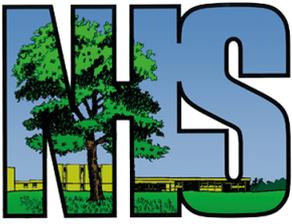
Students in Years 8 - 11, 13 and the Year 12 students who attended Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form previously should register their results on test register, whilst other Year 12 students are asked to photograph the results and bring these to the sixth form on their first day.

It remains very important that students and staff continue to test at home, twice a week. From September we will continue to provide test kits, but if you find you do not have a sufficient supply to cover the summer holiday period, test kits can be ordered online or collected locally. More information is available [here](#).

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One in three people who test positive for COVID-19 do not have symptoms and so regular asymptomatic testing continues to be a vital part of our response to managing the virus. This new testing approach is designed to minimise the spread of COVID-19 and support more learners to remain in face-to-face education, which is our top priority.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Dr C Cusick
Head of School

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