



**BELVOIR**  
A PRIORY ACADEMY

15<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

**Testing Programme after the Christmas break commencing Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

The Government has asked schools to make the necessary preparations to test all pupils after the Christmas break commencing on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021. This is now even more important with the rise of the Omicron variant. The purpose of the testing programme is to identify anyone who has Covid-19 and is asymptomatic i.e. has no symptoms. The requirement is for **one** test as part of the assisted testing programme and then for students to resume twice weekly testing at home. Setting up an assisted test site remains a logistical challenge and we have considered carefully how this can be achieved most effectively and with the minimum disruption to face-to-face teaching and learning. We will begin the testing programme on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and operate a staggered start to the new term which will mean all students will be back in school full time by Friday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022. This will ensure that students will be able to travel on school buses and public transport safely and able to attend their full teaching timetable the day after taking their lateral flow test and receiving a negative result.

Each form group has been allocated an appointment time and we ask that students arrive at school at that time promptly so we can support them in registering and completing the self-swab lateral flow test. The test is carried out by the student with guidance and support. The lateral flow test is a simple process involving swabbing the inside of both nostrils. We have, of course, operated an assisted test site previously and have supported students in this process efficiently and successfully. The testing team are all fully trained, highly competent and skilled in supporting students to take the test and in processing the results. The testing site risk assessment can be found [here](#).

We are very aware that many students rely on school or public transport or travel by car to school. On this occasion, to facilitate the testing programme, we are seeking your support in bringing your child to school on the designated day and time if they need transporting. You will need to wait for your child in the car as they queue and register for the test and complete the test –this does not take long. Your child can then return home and the test result will be sent to the mobile number inputted during the registering process. If your child's test result is positive, we will also contact you with further guidance and your child must self-isolate for 10 full days, and take a PCR test to validate the lateral flow test positive result. Students who are coming to school by foot should come directly to school and return home directly following their test.

**Please be aware that school transport will not be operating on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022. However, it will re-commence on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January for those students who attend the testing programme on the previous day. E.g. Year 10 and Year 11 only can travel by designated school transport from Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January.**

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The Priory Belvoir Academy is part of The Priory Federation of Academies Trust. For further information please contact:

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Similarly Year 8 and 9 will be able to commence travel on school transport from Friday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022. Year 7 will be able to use school transport on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> January for the return journey only. This is because they will not yet have been tested until the Friday morning. Year 7 will not need to return home after their test. Instead, they should arrive at their allocated form group time, they will be tested and then wait in the sports hall whilst their test is processed and their result known. Once a negative result is returned, they will be able to join their lesson. In this way, they will be able to return home on school transport in the afternoon in the normal way.

Below is the testing schedule, commencing on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022. You will receive an additional email confirming your child's appointment time and first day back at school.

	Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> January 2022
8.45	10HY	8FW	7RH
9.15	10JRA	8BH	7SWN
9.45	10LW	8NS	7WST
10.15	10RM	8VO	7RRC
10.45	10SF	8GFM	7RBK
11.30	11CP	9DBS	
12.00	11ELL	9MST	
1.00	11BJ	9RW	
1.30	11HRS	9JJ	
2.00	11OP	9GCL	

Students should enter the school site via the rear carpark into the dining area next to the sports hall. They should join the queue wearing a face covering, socially distanced and sanitise their hands on entry. They will be called forward by the supervising members of staff.

### **Preparation prior to attending the test appointment**

Please can you ensure your child brings a fully charged mobile phone, knows or has the following information with them before they attend their test appointment so that they can speedily register themselves for a test on arrival to school:

- First line of the home address e.g. Number or name of the house and road and postcode
- Mobile telephone number (the test result will arrive via text message)
- Outdoor coats or bags are not permitted within the test site and should be left at home or in the car where possible.

Please read the link, [Registration Process for Testing](#), which takes you through the registration process step by step. Please help to familiarize your child with the process as this will save time on the day.

On return to school, please can we ask you to provide a packed lunch until Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022 as we will be operating a much reduced lunch service whilst we complete the testing programme. After this date, a full lunch service will be back in operation.

If there are any changes to the guidance over the next couple of weeks, I will of course update you. I wish all of our students and families, a very happy Christmas and look forward to welcoming everyone back in the new year.

Yours faithfully,

Mr L S Newton  
Headteacher

