

SEATON VALLEY FEDERATION OF SCHOOLS

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Chair of Governors: Susan Dungworth Executive Headteacher: John Barnes

24 March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to clarify the position regarding home testing over the Easter Holidays.

The Government have updated their guidance with the statement below:

Testing at home throughout the Easter holidays for schools and colleges

Following the success of the asymptomatic testing programme on the return to school and college, it is vital to keep testing at home throughout the Easter holidays and into the summer term. Please pass on this message to all of your staff, students and parents:

- test twice a week at home from now on (all those who are able to)
- <u>report results online</u> as positive, negative or void. This information is critical in helping us to understand the prevalence of the virus across the country
- continue to test twice weekly over the Easter holidays
- test before returning to school or college for the summer term, either the night before, or morning of, the first day back, to find and isolate any positive cases

Families and households can also access home test kits for adults.

In the event a home test kit shows a positive result, the Government guidance is very clear that the individual must isolate and **book a confirmatory PCR test as soon as possible**. Their household and close contacts must self-isolate immediately, **whilst awaiting the outcome of the PCR test.** If the PCR returns as **positive**, all parties must carry out a 10-day isolation. If the PCR returns as **negative**, all parties can end their isolation immediately and return to normal.

It is important that any positive results, whether they are from home test kits or a PCR test, are reported to school as soon as possible, including over the Easter holidays. Please email <u>reception@svf.org.uk</u> or call 0191 2371505.

Students at all three of our schools will be supplied with enough home testing kits to continue testing over the Easter holidays and into next term.

Should you have any questions regarding home testing, please contact the School Office.

Yours sincerely

Mr J Barnes Executive Headteacher

