



19th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Information for Parents regarding COVID19 Contact Tracing

Thank you for all your support over the last couple of weeks as we conducted Lateral Flow testing with the students across all Year groups. This process has now finished and we have carried out more than 2500 tests thanks to the support of the staff, governors, invigilators and volunteers.

As you know schools play a vital role in reducing the spread of COVID19. One way in which this is done is by undertaking contact tracing on behalf of the Essex Contact Tracing team. We identify any individuals who have been in close contact at school with someone who has tested positive for COVID19 during the time that is considered the contagious period, this is from two days before the person's symptoms are displayed. Those individuals are then required to self-isolate for 10 days because they are at risk of having contracted COVID19 and being contagious themselves.

To continue the support of Contact Tracing; staff and students will continue to carry out tests at home.

Home Testing Using a Lateral Flow Device

All students have been given a Lateral Flow Home Testing Kit that contains 3 tests, along with detailed instructions. To alleviate any asymptomatic cases, students should take a test twice a week and we ask that this is done on a **Sunday** and **Wednesday** evening each week and then log the results into the Test and Trace website <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>

If the test result is negative, then you do not need to take any further action

If the test result is positive, then the following two things will need to be done:

1. Inform the school by emailing covid@rodingvalley.net and provide the following information:
 - **Name of your child,**
 - **Names of students that are in close friendship groups from outside their classes (but only those they spent time with in school in that immediate period)**
2. The student will need to take a confirmatory PCR test at a local test centre. We also have some on site that can be collected if needed.

If Your Child Develops Symptoms of COVID19

You must seek a PCR test for your child and the household must isolate at home until the test result is returned. You should let the school know that this has occurred by emailing covid@rodingvalley.net . The quickest way to obtain a test is to book a test at your local testing centre via <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> or a test delivered to your home at <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>



If the test result is **positive** for COVID19, You should contact the school on covid@rodingvalley.net and **then the student and close contacts will need to isolate for 10 days**

- If the test result is **negative**, you should inform the school and you do not need to take any further action.

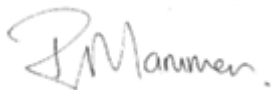
When contacting the school, you must provide the following:

- **Name of your child,**
- **Date of symptoms starting,**
- **Names of students that are in close friendship groups from outside their classes (but only those they spent time with in school in that immediate period)**

If you are contacted by the school because your child is identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID19, they must self-isolate for 10 days. I would encourage you to adhere to social distancing and all COVID19 social mixing guidance for the remainder of term to reduce the risk of transmission of the virus as the last thing we want is anyone being unwell or required to self-isolate over the holiday period.

Thank you for your cooperation and ongoing support,

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mr. Mammen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M'.

Mr. Mammen
Senior Deputy Headteacher