



Tudor Grange Academy Redditch

15th July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to thank all parents for your support over the last eighteen months. Our staff have had to adapt and cope with a myriad of complex challenges and pressures throughout the pandemic and they have ensured that Tudor Grange students have been able to continue with their education despite restrictions. We could not have managed this though without your support and understanding.

Lateral Flow Testing

As pupils will potentially mix with lots of other people during the summer holidays, the Dfe has issued operational guidance to schools for September 2021. The guidance states that all secondary school pupils should receive 2 on-site lateral flow device tests, 3 to 5 days apart, on their return in the autumn term. Pupils should then continue to test twice weekly at home until the end of September, when this will be reviewed. Test kits will be available for students to complete the tests at home under parental supervision twice a week. The full guidance can be found here: [Schools COVID 19 operational guidance](#).

Up to one third of people who have coronavirus are asymptomatic. By testing we will help to reduce the spread in school and college settings through asymptomatic transmission. I am therefore strongly encouraging students to be tested.

Our test centre has been operational during lockdowns, and we have tested over a 1000 students and staff. The process is very quick and effective, and we will support all students through the testing process. We will begin testing pupils from Thursday 2nd September and you will receive an email or text with the time they should arrive at school. Please support us by ensuring that your child attends as promptly as possible. If they have a mobile phone, please can they bring it with them to make the registration process easier.

For this first test, students just need to attend for the test. The second test will take place either before their return or once they are back in school. The schedule is:

Year group	First test	Second test
Y9/12	Thursday 2 nd September	Monday 6 th September
Y10	Friday 3 rd September & Monday 6 th September	Monday 6 th September & Wednesday 8 th September
Y11	Friday 3 rd September	Tuesday 7 th September
Y13	Monday 6 th September	Wednesday 8 th September



Students will be returning to school fully on the following dates:

Y9/12	Monday 6 th September – Transition Day
Y10	Wednesday 8 th September
Y11	Tuesday 7 th September
Y13	Wednesday 8 th September

I include below further details on the testing programme:

How the tests work

Those taking the test will be supervised by trained staff and volunteers. The lateral flow tests are quick and easy to undertake, using a swab of the nose and throat. Results (which take around half an hour from testing) will be shared directly with the individual participant. The school will inform the student of a positive test result. Where participants are under 16, parents or legal guardians will also be informed. The student will also receive a text/email notification of a positive or negative result from the online NHS system.

What if my child tests positive?

If a pupil tests positive on a lateral flow device, they will be informed immediately by school and will need to take a further 'PCR test' to confirm the result. This should be on the same day or as soon as possible afterwards. During the time while waiting for the PCR result (via text/email) they will need to self-isolate. If the PCR test returns a positive result they will have to continue to self-isolate and follow the guidance from NHS Test and Trace.

What happens if the test is negative?

While a small number of pupils may need to repeat the test if the first test was invalid or void for some reason, pupils who test negative will receive their **second test as per the schedule above**. Pupils will be informed of negative test results via text/email.

What if staff or students have been in close contact with someone in school who has tested positive?

From 16 August 2021, children under the age of 18 years old will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case. Instead, children will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so. 18-year-olds will be treated in the same way as children until 4 months after their 18th birthday, to allow them the opportunity to get fully vaccinated. At which point, they will be subject to the same rules as adults and so if they choose not to get vaccinated, they will need to self-isolate if identified as a close contact.

What if my child develops symptoms?

This testing programme at school is for people with no symptoms. If your child develops symptoms at any time (including a high temperature; a new, continuous cough; or a loss or change to their sense of smell or taste) they must immediately self-isolate and book a test by calling 119 or visiting <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

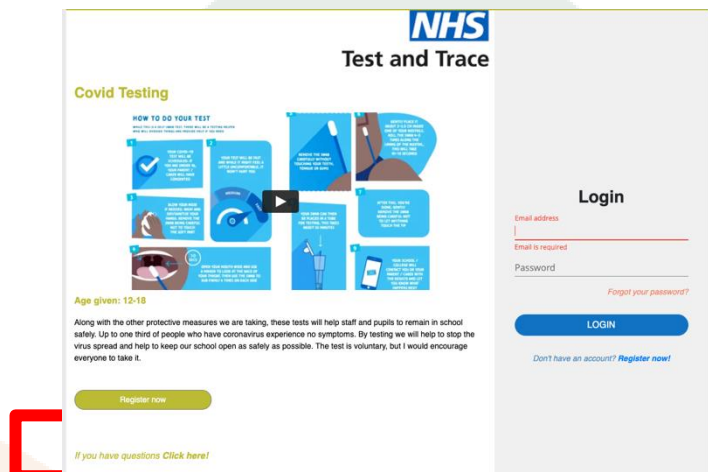
How often will my child be tested?

Testing of students will take place from **Thursday 2nd September** and again on **Tuesday 7th September or Wednesday 8th September**. Test kits will be distributed for all students to test at home. Alternatively these test kits can be obtained at local shopping centres and pharmacies.

How do I give consent?

- All parents will need to give consent for their child to be tested if they already haven't done so. As a school we have an online School Screener service. Below is a step-by-step guide to access our School Screener service.

Step 1: Use the link provided to register yourself in the School Screener Portal
Click on the link, select register now and enter the details requested.



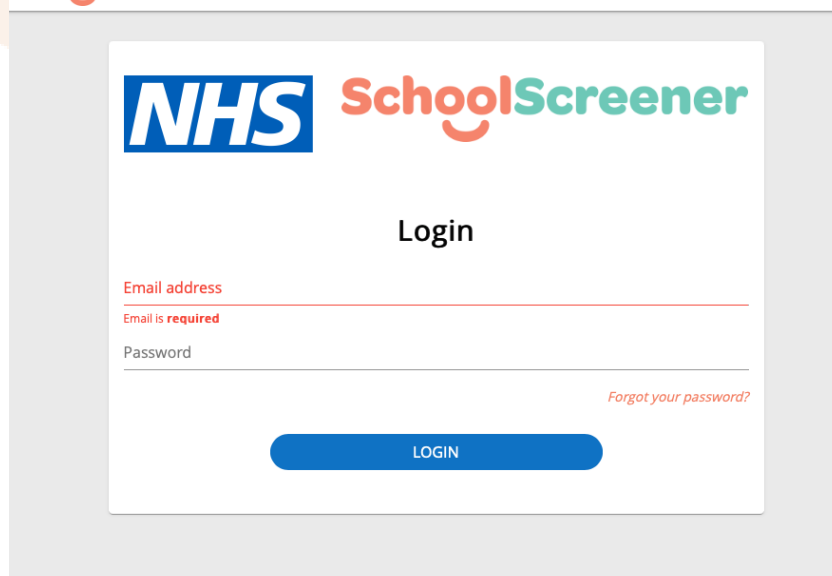
<https://app.schoolscreener.com/Portal/#/Covidmanager/p/CovidTesting/140731>

- You will be emailed a link to confirm your email address. If you do not receive this email to your inbox, please also check your junk folder
- Follow this link and set a password.
- Your account is now set up.

Once your account is set up move onto step 2.

Step 2: Visit portal.schoolscreener.com and give consent

SchoolScreener



- Enter your email address and password and click login.
- You will now see a box titled "Covid Testing". Click on "Fill in the questionnaire form"
- Make sure the correct school is selected in the "Create a Submission" box, and then click Next.

- On the next page, enter all of the requested information about the person who will be tested: either yourself or your child. Once this is complete, click Save and Continue
- You will then be provided with information about the Covid Testing. Once you have read this, please record your consent at the bottom of the page. Then add your name and click Submit.

Step 3: If you have another child at the school, repeat the process.

- Return to the School Screener Homepage and click on the Add another child link
- Repeat steps 1 and 2 for this pupil.

We will support our staff and students throughout, but please contact us if you have any questions.

Reports

You will receive a report this week that gives you information about your child's progress. This report follows a common assessment undertaken at the end of the summer term. We recognise that this information will have been sent at the very end of term but this was unavoidable as we were only able to collate the final assessment information at the beginning of this week. We will be able to discuss any queries or concerns that you have based on this information after the summer break.

Results Days

Please note the following arrangements for students to collect their GCSE and A-Level results:

- **Tuesday 10th August – A-Level Results Morning – Result can be collected from 8.30 a.m.**
- **Thursday 12th August – GCSE Results Morning – Result can be collected from 8.30 a.m.**

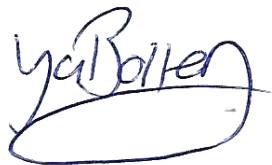
Students will be able to collect their results from the 'Theatre'. Members of the leadership team will be present to support students on this morning. Please note that parents will not be able to collect results without written, signed consent from their child. If you would like results emailed to you then please let the exams office know by **Friday 30th July** by emailing exams@redditch.tgacademy.org.uk The email must be sent from your child's school email address and they must give permission for this.

Autumn term

All students will require correct **School Uniform and/or Sixth Form Dress Code** to begin the term. Full information can be found [here](#). Please remember that trainers, unnatural hair dye, nose piercings, coloured or fake nails are not acceptable dress for school.

I would like to wish you all a wonderful summer break and I look forward to welcoming the students back in the autumn term.

Yours faithfully,



Jodie Bolter