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15 March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

### **Lateral Flow Testing**

I am delighted to inform you that this morning we successfully completed the third and final supervised lateral flow testing of our students. With just over 3,000 tests completed, this has been a monumental effort from everyone involved and your children have been a real credit to you and our school. Thankfully, no asymptomatic cases have been identified which reflects the falling rate within our town. Despite this news, we will continue to remain vigilant and maintain our biosecure measures within school and will continue to impress upon everyone the importance of doing so.

Your children will be bringing home with them today, Monday 15 March, their personal COVID-19 Self-Test Kits. Each kit contains enough equipment to carry out three tests and the expectation is that they complete two tests per week, one on Sunday evening and the other on Wednesday evening. Your child will have already used their Self-Test Kit in school twice, under supervision, and should therefore be relatively comfortable carrying out their own test at home with you.

The Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC) are providing Self-Test Kits for all students so that testing can continue throughout the Easter break and these will be delivered to the academy later this term.

Within each kit there are instructions on how to report the test result online or by telephone. From a school perspective we will assume that the tests have been carried out and that a negative result has been recorded unless you contact and inform us of a positive test result.

If a positive result is recorded, then your child, you and your household should self-isolate immediately, in line with the NHS guidance, for 10 days. A confirmatory PCR test should be booked to confirm the result. The result of the PCR test overrides the rapid self-test result if it is returned negative.

If you have any questions that your child is unable to tell you or the answer is not contained within the instructions in the kit, please email [masstesting@furnessacademy.co.uk](mailto:masstesting@furnessacademy.co.uk) and we will get back to you promptly.

Once again, thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully

**Simon Laheney**  
**Headteacher & Chief Executive Officer**



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