



PEMBROKE
A PRIORY ACADEMY

Wednesday 15th December 2021

RE: COVID Measures and On-site Testing in January

Dear Parent/Carer,

Pembroke, like the whole country, is still coming to terms with the ever-changing COVID situation and this has 'bookended' our Autumn Term, beginning with the day of testing in our Sports Hall and finishing with the reintroduction of government recommended mask wearing in communal areas and on school transport. Thank you to all students and parents in supporting all COVID measures that are put in place. It is important to continually highlight the virus has not gone away. In fact, new variants are a reminder of the emphasis we must place on regular testing at home on a Sunday and Wednesday evening, regular hand washing and sanitising and the use of masks where appropriate.

Testing on return to school – Wednesday 5th January

We will begin the Spring Term with a staggered start to allow for testing on-site in line with government guidance. All students are invited to our Sports Hall to test at the times below on Wednesday 5th January, with the normal school day and curriculum beginning on Thursday 6th January.

Year 7:	8.30 – 9.15
Year 8:	9.15 – 10.00
Year 9:	10.00 – 10.45
Year 10:	10.45 – 11.30
Year 11:	11.30 – 12.15

Families with children in more than one year group should aim to bring all children in for the youngest child's time.

IMPORTANT: Consent for January testing

We are seeking consent for students to test on-site from all parents, even those who have consented previously. Consent given in previous academic years is no longer valid. Please provide consent for your child to take an on-site test on Wednesday 5th January via the following link: [NHS Test and Trace consent form for COVID-19 testing](#)

To allow us time to complete the admin tasks behind the testing please complete the consent form before Friday 17th December, 3pm.

Headteacher: Mr S Evans

The Priory Pembroke Academy, Croft Lane, Cherry Willingham, Lincoln LN3 4JP

Tel: 01522 751040 **Email:** generalenquiries@priorypembroke.co.uk **www.priorypembroke.co.uk**

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

The Priory Federation of Academies Trust, Cross O'Cliff Hill, Lincoln LN5 8PW **Telephone:** 01522 889977

Registered Company No: 6462935. DfE Registration No: 145052



Testing throughout the Christmas Holidays

All students are encouraged to continue twice-weekly home testing during the school holidays. Keeping the routine of testing is important in taking steps to stop the spread of the virus.

Daily testing for close contacts of COVID

You may be aware Government guidance regarding close contacts and the need to take daily LFD testing for 7 days has recently been updated; please see below. If you are contacted by test and trace and your child is identified as a close contact of somebody with COVID they will advise you of the requirements for daily testing. If while taking the daily LFD tests a positive result is obtained you should follow national guidance; we also ask that you contact us at the Academy via the email pembroke@prioryacademies.co.uk so we are aware that your child will not be in school. We will continue to monitor the guidance and provide updates as they become available.

Latest Government guidance:

Daily testing for contacts of COVID-19

From Tuesday 14 December, a new national approach to daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 is being introduced (including until the end of this term). All adults who are fully vaccinated and children aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 – whether Omicron or not – should take a lateral flow device (LFD) test every day for 7 days instead of self-isolating. Daily testing by close contacts will help to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 will help protect education settings by reducing transmission and will also help keep pupils in face-to-face education.

Once notified by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact, all eligible staff, pupils and students should take an LFD each day for 7 days and report the results through the [Online Reporting System](#) and to their setting. If they test negative, they can continue to attend their education setting. Outside of the education setting, they should continue to follow the advice set out in the [Sunday 12 December press release](#). This approach should also be adopted over the winter break and on return in January.

If they test positive, they should self-isolate and [order a PCR test](#) to confirm the result. If the PCR is positive, they must self-isolate for 10 days. If the PCR test is negative, they no longer need to self-isolate but should continue to carry out the remainder of the daily tests, and only need to isolate if it is positive.

All staff and secondary aged pupils and students should have access to a box of 7 LFD tests from their education setting. For primary aged children [LFD test kits are available through the usual routes](#) (community test sites, local pharmacies or online).

Children under five years old do not need to take part in daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 and do not need to isolate.

Anyone over the age of 18 years and 6 months who is not vaccinated, must isolate in line with government guidelines if they are a close contact of a positive case.

COVID Vaccinations for children aged 12-15

We have been asked to remind parents that children aged 12-15 who have not yet had their first vaccine can book their child's first vaccination slot over the winter break via the [national booking system](#).

As ever, thank you to all students and parents, as well as all staff, in achieving together during these continually changing a challenging times. If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to get in touch on pembroke@prioryacademies.co.uk.

Kind regards,

Mr N Bibby
Assistant Headteacher