



Watford Grammar School for Boys

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Headmaster: Mr I Cooksey MA (Oxon) MA (Lond)

10th March 2021

Dear parents & carers,

We are delighted to report that we have completed the first round of on-site testing using the Lateral Flow Devices (LFD) and this was a pretty slick operation with wonderful support from parental volunteers and our staff, coupled with an exceptional attitude from your sons. The pandemic has thrown up all sorts of challenges and we have risen to meet them all with equanimity.

The levels of consent for testing at WBGs are very high at 94% and we didn't record a single positive case. This is very good news indeed and should help to provide a measure of reassurance for all parents and students. However, we should guard against complacency, as these diagnostic tests do not capture every single positive case – indeed, no diagnostic test is infallible, including the PCR test. It is also possible for any individual to become infected with the virus after testing, which is why it is important to engage with LFD testing on an ongoing basis. It would be helpful if you could have that conversation with your son so that he understands the need to engage with all of the other measures to keep him and others safe in school and in wider society.

Your son will complete two further LFD tests in school, after which he will be able to conduct tests at home using the Self-Test Kits. The timetable for the second round of testing is attached. You can find out more about at home testing [here](#). Home testing is not mandatory and students do not need to provide proof of a negative test result to attend school in person, although participation in testing is strongly encouraged.

Self-Test Kits will be distributed to students after their final on-site test next week. Each kit contains 6 Lateral Flow Tests (LFT), enough to undertake 2 tests per week at home until the end of this term. We will communicate further with details about this scheme in due course.

Kind regards,

Mr Cooksey