

15th December 2020

COVID-19 screening for asymptomatic (symptom-free) sixth formers and staff, in partnership with Kensington and Chelsea Council.

Dear Sixth Form Parents/Carers,

Students in our Sixth form have today received information regarding the asymptomatic screening pilot programme we have agreed to participate in tomorrow with Kensington and Chelsea Council.

This means that any Sixth Formers and staff who want to will be able to have a free and fast **COVID-19** test at school tomorrow, even if they do not have symptoms. The testing will be run by Kensington and Chelsea Council, with appropriate social distancing in place. Students will be shown how to take a throat and nose swab for themselves, fully supervised. The tests use the latest technology to ensure results are provided in just 30 minutes.

Until now, as you know, tests have only generally been available to people with **COVID-19** symptoms. Kensington and Chelsea Council asked our staff and sixth formers to participate in this programme so they can understand more about how a wider rollout of the system might work – they are hoping for more schools to be able to participate in the New Year.

We were pleased to agree, not only because it gives us the opportunity to support the national effort to beat COVID-19, but because regular, rapid tests will help protect family and friends and mean we can return to normality quicker.

I know there is a great deal of enthusiasm among staff and sixth formers for this step. As we approach the holidays, the tests will give us clarity when it comes to seeing elderly or vulnerable family and friends.

The decision about whether to participate rests with individuals once they are 16, but I am keen for parents to be aware of the programme and our reasons for taking part. I have enclosed the Q&A provided by Kensington and Chelsea Council for students and staff.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Sixth form team.

Best wishes,



Adam Whitlock
AP Sixth Form