WESTBURY-ON-SEVERN C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Monday 8th March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

It is wonderful to have all the children back in school; It feels like our Westbury Family is complete again!

I am writing to you today with updated information from the Government about the national Test and Trace programme, and their offer of twice weekly testing for parents/carers who have school-aged children or young people at college. Please read the information below:

Undertaking regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing helps reduce transmission of the virus. Parents and other adults in households with children at school or college, who do not have symptoms, can now access regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. This includes childcare and support bubbles.

Tests are fast, easy and completely free. There are <u>different ways</u> for a household, childcare or support bubble to collect their test to take at home, twice-weekly:

- •through your employer, if they offer testing to employees,
- •by collecting a home test kit from a local test site anyone aged 18 or over can collect 2 packs of 7 tests,
- •by ordering a home test kit online please do not order online if you can access testing through other routes, this frees up home delivery for those who need it most.

If you have any queries about the tests, and you live in England, please call 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day from 7am to 11pm.

Children of primary school age (and below) without symptoms are not being asked to take a test. Testing is voluntary, but strongly recommended to all who are eligible. Alongside the vaccine, washing hands, wearing face coverings, and maintaining social distancing, rapid testing plays a vital role in reducing transmission rates. Getting into the habit of regular testing as part of our everyday lives will help us all to play our part and do what we can to protect each other.

Please be aware that these tests are not available from school. As a whole-school staff at Westbury, we have all been twice-weekly self-testing since January. The process is quick, easy and it really does give a reassurance when coming into school that we are as safe as we can be and helping to identify potential outbreaks. So far, we have always tested negative! Great news for us all!

With warmest wishes,

David Crunkhurn Headteacher









