



Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear parents and carers

I am writing to pass on the information below, which was sent out to schools by Tower Hamlets local authority yesterday (Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December):

### Pre-Christmas testing

We are inviting you to get a Covid-19 test before Christmas and in the New Year, even if you are well.

If you have Covid-19 and don't know it, you can spread it, putting your friends and family at risk. By offering Covid-19 tests to all members of your school community, we are hoping to keep you and yours safe this Christmas. Tests are free, and are available to school staff and to all students in Year 7-13, their families and bubbles.

How you can get a test

#### 1) At a mobile test unit

Tower Hamlets council will be setting up mobile testing units (MTU) from Monday 14<sup>th</sup> of December to Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> of December. Please go to [www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/MTU](http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/MTU).

No appointments are necessary, simply turn up to get tested – unless you are self-isolating, in which case you must stay at home.

#### 2) At a local test site

[Book a test on gov.uk](http://Book a test on gov.uk) or by calling 119.

#### 3) Home test kit

[Book a test on gov.uk](http://Book a test on gov.uk) or by calling 119. Please book a home test kit if you are self-isolating – do not attend test sites.



## Post-Christmas testing

After Christmas, we are asking all secondary school / college staff and students in Years 11-13 to take a home swab test before returning to school.

These home swabs need to be returned to local drop off points in Tower Hamlets on 30<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> December and 1<sup>st</sup> January, or at sites outside Tower Hamlets available at [www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/school-tests](http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/school-tests).

Thank you for taking time to protect our community. Remember: Wash **hands**. Cover **face**. Make **space**.

These measures have obviously been introduced at very short notice, but we hope they will help to minimise infection rates and therefore support our efforts to keep the school open safely.

Further information about the post-Christmas tests is included in an information leaflet which will be given out with the tests.

**If your child receives a positive test result, you must immediately notify the school using the email address [info@mulberryutc.org](mailto:info@mulberryutc.org). Please include a copy of the test result notification in your email.**

**If your child receives a negative test result, you do not need to notify the school – please continue to send your child to school as normal.**

Please note that the school will be closed between 24<sup>th</sup> December and 1<sup>st</sup> January inclusive. If you notify the school about a positive test during this time, you will not receive a response until the school reopens on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January.

Many thanks for your continued support for the school during this time.

Yours sincerely,

Dr K Vincent

**Principal**