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> Mr J Lamb Headteacher

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Dear Parents / Carers,

We have received the following guidance which takes effect from tomorrow.

From Friday 1st April, testing for Covid-19 is not recommended within schools:

- adults with the symptoms of a respiratory infection, and who have a high temperature or feel unwell, should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature
- children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend
- adults with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days, which is when they are most infectious. For young people 18 years old and under, the advice is to try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days.

We will not be able to distribute any further test kits to staff or students as testing is no longer advised.

The population now has much stronger protection against COVID-19 than at any other point in the pandemic. This means we can begin to manage the virus like other respiratory infections, thanks to the success of the vaccination programme and access to antivirals, alongside natural immunity and increased scientific and public understanding about how to manage risk.

Best wishes
The Castle School