



7 January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

I would like to provide some additional information relating to the asymptomatic testing, which has taken place at Guilsborough this week.

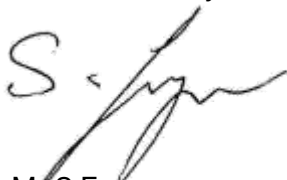
On Wednesday, we received a significant number of positive results when testing year 7 students. This was immediately reported to Public Health England who were happy with the actions we were taking and advised all students were sent home and advised to isolate in line with government guidance.

Yesterday, we continued with testing year 8 and 9 students and again results showed a number of positive results which was far in excess of what would be statistically expected. We made the decision to contact Public Health England again who arranged for a mobile testing unit to attend the site. All students (including the majority year 7 students who tested positive on Wednesday) were retested and in the vast majority of cases, were found to be negative.

Today, we continued with testing year 8 students but made a note of the batch numbers of test kits. One particular batch was identified as producing only positive results. These tests were confirmed as faulty by staff who applied the reactant alone to a test strip, this produced a positive result. We now know we were unfortunate to have received a batch of tests which, for some reason, were only giving positive results. This has been reported to Public Health England.

Naturally, we are incredibly disappointed this has happened. It has caused a great deal of unnecessary upheaval for students, parents and staff. I sincerely hope that this was an isolated incident and would not occur should we be requested to conduct asymptomatic testing on site again. I would like to thank parents/carers for their support during this week and also state how proud we are of our students who have been exemplary throughout and have continued to be a real credit to our school and community.

Yours Faithfully



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Principal

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