

Friday 28th January 2022

Collection of Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs)

The use of RAT kits is an important step to support the health and wellbeing of our students and staff. They are a quick and easy screening tool to help detect COVID-19. It is a simple process of placing a nose or throat swab in a chemical solution, which is put onto a scanning device. Results can be ready within 15 minutes. **Use of RAT kits is highly recommended but not mandatory.**

Instructions are included in the kits detailing how to use the tests, check the results and dispose of the tests safely. You can also download the instructions through the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA). The user guides will also contain a contact number for the suppliers if you need additional support.

How and when do I pick up the RAT kits?

The Rapid Antigen Tests will be **distributed to all parents and caregivers this Monday 31st January**. Parents/caregivers will be required to collect their RAT kits at the time outlined below to avoid congestion. Depending on the first letter of your surname, the times will be staggered throughout the day.

Time	Surname letter
9:00am-10:00am	A B C D
10:00am-11:00am	E F G H I
11:00am-12:00pm	J K L M
12:00pm-1:00pm	N O P Q
1:00pm-2:00pm	R S T U
2:00pm-3:00pm	V W X Y Z

The RAT kits will be available for collection outside Gate A (Gate closest to the kiss and drop). To avoid congestion, we kindly ask that you leave the pick-up location immediately after collecting the kits. RAT kits must be collected from school by a parent not a student. If you are unable to collect it yourself, you may send another adult on your behalf with written authority. We strongly encourage you to collect the RAT kits at your time listed above but if you are unable to do so, you may collect at an alternate time throughout the day.

Tests are to be completed at home in the morning before attending school. Each student will receive an initial supply of 4 RATs to be used twice a week. It is suggested on a Monday and a Wednesday.

If a student receives a **positive** RAT result, parents need to:

- ✓ Record the positive RAT result through the Service NSW website.
- ✓ Notify the school of the positive RAT or PCR result as soon as possible
- ✓ Follow NSW health advice and isolate for 7 days.

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- ✓ Negative results **do not** need to be reported to Service NSW or to the school.

It is recommended that students that return to school after recovering from COVID-19 do not participate in rapid antigen test surveillance for 28 days (four weeks after recovery) following release from self-isolation. This is due to NSW Health advice that people who have recovered from COVID-19 have a low risk of contracting it again in the following 28 days. After 28 days (from week five after recovery) students may resume participation in RAT surveillance.

If you are unable to organise collection of the RAT tests throughout Monday, please contact the school to arrange collection at an alternate time during school office hours.

Further information concerning the distribution of RAT tests to students will be communicated in Week 3.

If you any questions or queries regarding the collection of the RAT kits please contact Mr Attard on 0247 301 201.

Mr Attard

Health & Safety Coordinator

Mr Wynn

Principal