



The  
Portsmouth Academy

Our Ref: GRY/woo/STLtr

10 March 2021

Dear parents,

Yesterday evening we were informed by HIOW of the need to suspend the saliva testing programme. This is due to glitches in their system which means that they are unable to process the volume of testing that they had originally planned. I have attached an information sheet from them which explains this further.

Whilst this is disappointing, in every challenge there is always a silver lining! This temporary suspension will allow us to concentrate on ensuring students are well prepared for lateral flow home testing which of course they would have still needed to have completed once a week alongside the saliva tests.

Mr R. Smith (Welfare Lead) is currently working hard to revise plans to ensure all students receive three lateral flow tests within school, before home testing begins. More information on this will follow.

We hope to resume the saliva testing programme after the Easter holidays and will of course keep you updated on progress toward this.

I would like to take this opportunity to praise all our students who have so far attended their lateral flow test on site. Conduct and attitude has been exemplary and we are all very proud of the way they have responded. All students who have returned on site up to this point have also taken the increased health and safety rules, such as face masks in classrooms, very seriously.

Thank you for all your continued support.

Mrs R. Grey

Principal  
The Portsmouth Academy