**Torrens Primary School**

Ritchie Street TORRENS A.C.T. 2607

Phone: 6142 0777 Email: admin@torrensps.act.edu.au Website: www.torrensps.act.edu.au

Dear Families,

This letter is to inform you about how our school will distribute Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs) for use by students. As part of our risk mitigation strategies for the commencement of the school year for the first 4 weeks of school, the ACT Government will provide 2 rapid antigen tests per week for students from pre-school to year 12 and all school staff in all schooling sectors – government and non-government.

RATs will be available for all teachers and school-based staff. This will help us ensure we are testing anyone symptomatic and to help identify cases as early as possible. The use of RATs is strongly recommended for students and staff, and early childhood education and care staff, twice weekly at home before school or childcare. **Testing is voluntary**.

We will distribute the first week’s RAT kits over two collection times as we are aware there are competing impacts on your time and family schedules. We have scheduled an afternoon and a morning collection time. I encourage you to make use of these collection times as I am sure you will understand that collection outside these times would significantly impact the running of the school. If you have multiple children across the school, you may pick up their RAT tests all at the same time. We have scheduled the times to be outside the usual pick up and drop off times as these times are already very busy, and it is imperative that we prioritise student safety.

We acknowledge that collecting RAT tests is going to be difficult for many working parents and apologise for this. The Directorate of Education is working closely with ACT Health to implement government initiatives safely.

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| Collection Time 1K-Year 2 | Day | Date | Time | Where |
| Wednesday | 2nd February | 10:00-12:00 | Outside Front Office, walk through collection centre |
| Collection Time 2Year 3-6 | Day | Date | Time | Where |
| Wednesday | 2nd February | 12:30-2:30 | Outside Front Office, walk through collection centre |
| Pre-School Collection (Torrens and Chifley) | Day | Date | Time | Where |
| Wednesday | 2nd February | 3:00pm | At your preschool at pick up time |
| Pre-School Collection (Torrens and Pearce) | Day | Date | Time | Where |
| Thursday | 3rd February | 3:00pm | At your preschool at pick up time |



This will be a contactless collection process as outlined below.

1. Find a carpark and enter the school at the front gate on Ritchie Street.
2. You will be asked to sign in using the Check in CBR app.
3. You will be asked to scan a QR code and provide your name and the

names of your children. You are welcome to complete the QR code and

form just prior to leaving home. Simply scan the QR code to the right and fill in

the information. Please keep the ‘Thanks! Your response was submitted’ screen

open on your device to show staff. This action could save considerable wait times.

1. A clear clockwise loop will be marked to walk up the ramp, display your screen and collect their allocated RAT tests (2 per student).
2. Travel down the stairs and out the immediate gate.

As a safety measure we do ask that 1 parent/carer attends the school site. Please wear face masks, do not hang around any longer than necessary and adhere to social distancing requirements.

RAT kits should be collected from school by a parent or carer, and the tests completed at home in the morning before attending school. Each student will receive two tests which need to be stored below 30 degrees.

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. Instructions for use are included in the kits.

I appreciate your ongoing support in keeping our community safe. If you have any questions regarding the RATs or collection, please contact the school. Front Office: 6142 0777

***Rachel Matthews - Principal***

Torrens Primary School

31 January 2022