

Appendix A

It was confirmed on 3rd February 2021 that the new South African variant of concern had been found in the Frankley Great Park area. Reaside Academy is inside the boundary of Frankley Great Park ward.

South African variant

- Known as VOC202012/02 and originated in South Africa
- Mutations which make it more contagious/ infectious
- No evidence it causes more severe disease
- Cases are now being picked up that are NOT linked to travel
- 2 cases detected in Frankley Great park (FGP) Ward
- Requirement for increased testing to pick up asymptomatic cases and limit spread

Contact tracing had been clear that the cases had not attended any education settings and there were no links to schools in the area. The advice for schools was to remain open and staff should access the PCR testing, we arranged for testing kits (28 in total for all staff members) to be delivered to the school. Staff did not need to isolate whilst awaiting their result. All tests at Reaside were completed on 8th February and returned on 9th February. All staff had their results before 12th February. **No** member of staff working on school premises tested positive.

There was no testing for children and the normal risk management arrangements apply to this variant as they did for the new Kent/London variant before Christmas. Therefore, there was no need for any further adjustments to be made to our current Risk Assessment (currently displayed on our website).

Advice for the local community

All over 18s have been asked to be tested. If you have no symptoms and are living or working in Frankley Great Park ward and the part of south Northfield between Frankley and the A38, south of Tessall Lane (**since 1 January 2021**) **you will need to be tested**. Postcode checker: <https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/homepage/368/check-whether-you-should-be-tested-for-covid-19-variant>

Drive through testing is now available at the **St. Modwen** testing site without an appointment - the testing site is located on Bristol Road South, opposite Longbridge Lane/ Bournville College. The site is open 8am to 4pm every day.

Further testing is now available at **Empire cinema car park**, Great Park, Rubery, B45 9JL - at the west car park, which is to the right of the building's main entrance. Opening hours are currently 8am to 4pm and booking is not required.

Home testing kits are now available for collection at **Hollymoor Centre**, 8 Manor Park Grove, Birmingham. The site is behind the church and to the right of the nursery. You must drop the test back within 24 hours for collection. Collections are available from 8am to 6pm, and the site is open for returns from 8am to 5pm every day.

They are also delivering door-to-door testing within parts of the targeted testing area to make it easier for people to be tested without leaving home. Test kits will be dropped off and collected later the same day. The team will all have ID badges and can be verified if you have concerns. This will run until 18th February 2021.