



# WALTON HIGH

*Leading Learning*

Walnut Tree Campus: Fyfield Barrow Milton Keynes MK7 7WH

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[www.waltonhigh.org.uk](http://www.waltonhigh.org.uk)



Executive Principal: Michelle Currie  
Principal: Sharon Alexander

Chair of Governors: Ayser Asif  
Business Manager: Sukh Singh

18 March 2021

## COVID-19 Update 35

Dear Parents

Since all students returned to school on 8 March, Walton High has completed over 6,500 tests, only one of which returned a positive result. We are extremely grateful to parents and students for consenting to testing which I hope has helped reassure everyone that it is safe to attend school. However, there is no room for complacency as [Annex A](#) shows that cases of COVID-19 in much of the school's catchment area continues to be well above the national average.

### **£200 fixed penalty fines**

Whilst students' engagement with the testing programme and wearing face coverings in school has been excellent, some appear to have forgotten that the country is still in lockdown and that on their way to and from school they **must** observe social distancing. A number of students are also visiting the local shops near both campuses for non-essential purposes and not shopping on their own. We should be grateful if parents would remind their children that they must go directly to school in the morning and straight home at the end of the day. By not doing so, your child risks being issued with a **£200 fixed penalty fine** for breaching COVID regulations. We have been advised that in the coming days there will be a police presence near schools in Milton Keynes to enforce expectations.

### **Phase 2 of the asymptomatic testing programme**

Many thanks to parents who completed the very brief survey to advise us of whether they would like their child to continue to be tested at school once or twice a week rather than complete tests at home. Arrangements for this to happen in term time are being drawn up and will be communicated to students directly. We have assumed that if a parent has not responded, but has given consent for their child to participate in the testing programme, that they want to do both weekly tests at home.

On Friday, we had hoped to issue all students taking part in the testing programme with three boxes of tests as home testing needs to begin on **Sunday, 21 March**. As each box contains three tests this would have provided nine tests that would have been enough to see them through to after the holiday. Unfortunately, the delivery that was scheduled for yesterday has not arrived. We have reported the missed delivery, but unless it arrives early tomorrow, we will only have enough stock to issue two kits on Friday. If this is the case, we will provide students with the third box of tests the following Friday.

These tests will also be given to those who are having one or both tests done at school to allow them to continue testing over the school holiday.

As the tests should be completed three to five days apart, parents who are doing home testing are asked to do one of them **every Sunday evening**. This is because in the event of the result being positive, as more than 48 hours will have elapsed since the child was in school, there will be no need for any of their classmates to self-isolate.

It is important that parents (or students) advise the school that the test has been taken and the result by completing the form on the school's website [Register Your LFD Home Test Results | Walton High](#). **Tests completed over the holiday should also be recorded**. Additional test kits will only be issued if we know the

ones already provided have been used. We will ensure additional test kits are issued to students before they run out.

It is also important that the result of every test is registered with NHS Test and Trace. How to do this is explained in the leaflet included with the tests.

We recognise that this is a chore for busy families but this information is very much needed and for the programme to run smoothly we need your support. The government will use the data on test results from secondary age students to detect the extent to which the virus is present in communities. This data will inform their decision making on ending the restrictions we all currently face in our day-to-day lives. By continuing to take part in the testing programme, you and your family will be doing your bit to help the country return to near normal by the summer. Something I am sure we all want to see.

The link below, and the leaflet that comes with the tests, explains how to carry out a home test.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9XR8RZxKNo&list=PLvaBZskxS7tzQYIVg7lwH5uxAD9UrSzGJ>

In the event of a positive result, the whole household would need to self-isolate but unlike for tests carried out in school, a confirmatory PCR test needs to be booked with Test and Trace. If the result of the PCR test is negative, the household may stop self-isolating.

LFD tests are only intended for use by people without symptoms, any student with symptoms should arrange to have a PCR test which can be booked via the government website [Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/get-a-free-pcr-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus).

### **And finally . . .**

As we are both over 60, Ms Alexander and I were pleased to be able to have the Oxford AstraZenica vaccine at the weekend. As the evidence base grows that vaccination is a safe and effective way of preventing serious illness, this is clearly a route out of the restrictions we all face.

We will continue to do our bit to help our students' lives return to normal as soon as possible and thank families for their support over the past twelve months.

Kind regards



Michelle Currie  
Executive Principal



# Annex A

17 March 2021 at 4:00pm

## Cases in Milton Keynes ▾

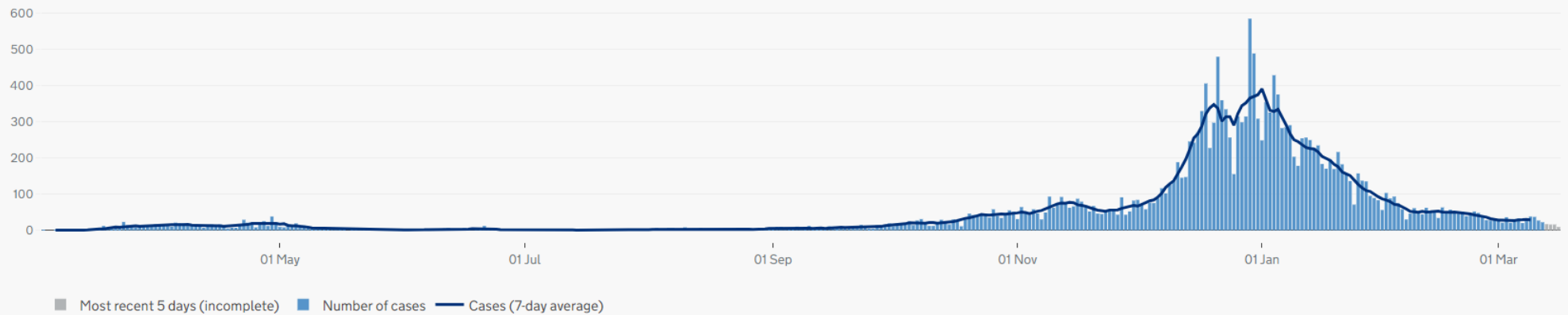
### People tested positive

Daily Total  
17 19,560

### Cases by specimen date

Number of people with at least one positive COVID-19 test result, either lab-reported or lateral flow device (England only), by specimen date. People tested positive more than once are only counted once, on the date of their first positive test. Data for the period ending 5 days before the date when the website was last updated with data for the selected area, highlighted in grey, are incomplete.

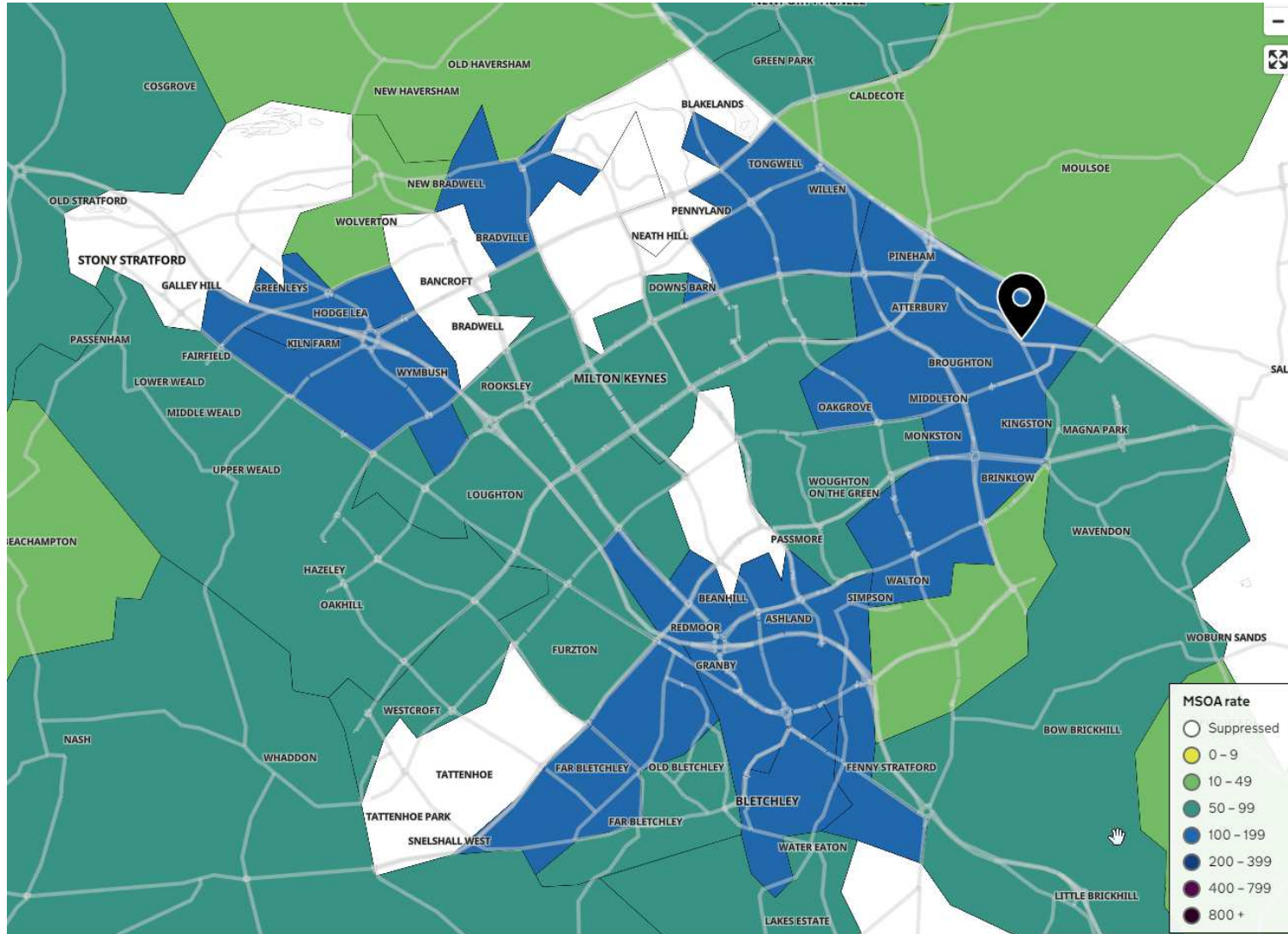
Daily Cumulative Data About



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# Seven-day rolling rate of new cases by specimen date ending on 12 March 2021



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