



Bishop Stopford's School

Brick Lane, Enfield, Middlesex, EN1 3PU

Headteacher: Mrs T. Day BA (Hons), NPQH

16th March, 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Update on twice weekly Covid-19 LFD testing at home for students

Students will shortly be moving to twice weekly, rapid Covid-19 LFD testing at home. This is following their first three supervised tests on site at school.

Up to one in three people who have Covid-19 have no symptoms and could be spreading it without knowing. To reduce the spread of the virus, we need to identify those individuals. We can do this at Bishop Stopford's School by students carrying out tests at home twice every week, **3-4 days apart**.

Testing Students at Home

All students will be provided with Home Test Kits from their tutor during form time on Thursday 18th March. These test kits will cover the next three weeks. **Your child should also continue testing twice a week, at home, throughout the Easter School holidays.** We will be sending home extra kits for the Easter holiday before term ends. This does not replace testing for those with symptoms, if you have symptoms you must self-isolate immediately, book a PCR test and follow national guidelines

Students will receive a sealed envelope which contains a pack of home test kits in two boxes, and an instructions booklet.

Please note the following very carefully

The instructions inside the box are now outdated and **MUST BE DESTROYED**. A new instructions booklet is provided in the envelope with the home test kits. This provides up to date information on how to take the test and report the results.

Please can all students take their first test at home on Sunday evening (21st March) and then again on Wednesday 24th March? Testing should take place every Sunday and Wednesday evening. Their tutor will be asking them the following morning to confirm that they have taken their tests at those times. Following the tests that have taken place in school, students will know how to test themselves with adult supervision. Please be there to help them. If your child is aged 11, please test them yourselves.

Reporting Results

If the test result is negative:

You must register the result with the NHS Test and Trace, as shown in the instructions booklet. You do not need to inform the school of a negative result, students should just arrive at school the next day as normal. In tutor time students will be asked to confirm that you took the test the night before.

If the test result is Positive:

Your child must stay at home. You must register your child's positive result and follow government national guidelines on self-isolation and testing. You must inform the school by email at covid@bishopstopfords.enfield.sch.uk as soon as possible.

If the test result is unclear (void):

You must report the result to NHS Test and Trace and follow government guidelines. You must inform the school via the following email covid@bishopstopfords.enfield.sch.uk your child must stay at home pending further guidance and advice.

Occasionally tutors will be contacting home to ensure that the tests are being carried without any issues and to offer support.

Help and support is available, including instructions in different languages on how to test and report the results and you can watch a demonstration video showing you, how to take the test at www.gov.uk/covid19-self-test-help

There is no need to keep used test equipment after the test result has been reported. You can put it in your normal bin, household waste.

A negative test result does not guarantee that you are not carrying the virus so, you should continue to follow social distancing, and other measures to reduce transmission such as wearing a face mask and regularly washing your hands.

Testing for parents, household and bubbles twice a week

A reminder that regular rapid testing is now also available for parents, their households and support or childcare bubbles. The government is encouraging all families to participate in twice weekly testing to help stop the spread. Parents and other adults in the household can access tests by:

- Ordering tests online www.gov.uk/order-school-household-tests
- Getting an assisted test at work, if it is available
- Attending a test site to get tested (where you will be able to see how to take the test) or pick up tests to do at home

To find out more on school household testing visit <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

As a school we have made the decision to send test kits home to all students, we are aware that a few of you did not consent to the in-school testing and would reiterate that all testing is voluntary. However, we continue to encourage everyone to take part in regular LFD testing due to the wider community benefits. If you do change your mind and use the test kits we are sending home please remember that the results must be reported to the NHS -

<https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>

If you would like any further information or assistance, please do not hesitate to e-mail the school on generaloffice@bishopstopfords.enfield.sch.uk

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully



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