



THE BISHOP OF HEREFORD'S BLUECOAT SCHOOL

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Enquiries: head@bhbs.hereford.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr Martin Henton

EMB/AHW

10th March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Following the successful programme of lateral flow testing that has been undertaken in school we are now in possession of the home testing kits. The home testing kits will be distributed to students so that they can test themselves at home (children under 12 can be tested by the adult in the household in line with the guidance). These kits will be sent home via students on Thursday this week. If a student is absent they will be sent home at the next opportunity via the form tutor.

Testing remains voluntary but to keep our community safe we are encouraging you all to take part in this. All our health and safety measures in school will need to still be undertaken even if students have had a negative result. Students will receive two packs of three tests which will last for three weeks. New kits will be sent home in the last week of term.

Students should undertake these tests at home twice per week. Detailed instructions on how to undertake them have been handed to students with the test kits. There is also a YouTube clip available if you prefer to watch this;

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvaBZskxS7tzQYIVg7lwH5uxAD9UrSzGJ&safe=true>,

Instructions are attached with this letter as well. Please do read the privacy notice on our website to understand what will happen with your data.

Results should be recorded after testing on both the NHS website at www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result **and** reported to school at this weblink:

<https://go.bhbs.hereford.sch.uk/StudentReportLFT>

If a student tests positive on a lateral flow test completed at home they should immediately book a standard PCR test to confirm the result. This can be booked online or by calling 119. Whilst awaiting the PCR result, the student and their family should self-isolate and the school should be informed. If the PCR test is negative, it overrides the self-test (LFD test) done at home and the student can return to school.

LFD tests taken at school where a result is positive do not need to be confirmed with a PCR test.

The consent that we have recorded applies to any testing undertaken in school. The consent for testing at home lies with families. By opening the test kit and undertaking the test you are consenting to undertaking the test. We would like you to do this on Sunday evening or Monday morning (it does take half an hour for the result to appear) before

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students come to school and then again on Wednesday evening or Thursday morning every week, to include the Easter holiday. All families should begin this process from **Sunday 14th March.**

I would like to remind you that in the event of a positive case of COVID in the household, please follow NHS guidance and to self-isolate for 10 days. The school must be informed of positive cases by contacting head@bhbs.hereford.sch.uk. If we do experience positive cases of COVID in school, we will be able to act swiftly in identifying close contacts who will need to self-isolate and of course keep you informed of any cases that we experience. We are only able to provide tests for students in the school. However, NHS Test and Trace announced earlier this week, that **all adults** in households with school and college age children without symptoms can now access regular rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. This information is available on the Gov.uk website and was also included in an addendum to Mr Henton's letter home last week.

Kind regards



Ellie Bunston
Deputy Headteacher