



SMA/rsh

Wednesday, March 24, 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Testing at home throughout the Easter holidays for schools and colleges

The Department for Education (DfE) guidance is to continue testing at home throughout the Easter holidays. As such, students will be issued with 2x additional home test kits during registration tomorrow.

Sixth Form students will be able to collect their kits from Mrs Cherry, who will communicate where and when students can collect their kits.

If your child is self-isolating please refer to the links below for ordering home test kits, or alternatively anyone over the age of 18 can pick up lateral flow home test kits from these [collection points](#).

Please read the guidance from the DfE below. It is important, as it states, that staff and students alike test before returning to school after the Easter break, either on Sunday 11th April, or on the morning of Monday 12th April before attending school.



Department
for Education

Following the success of the asymptomatic testing programme on the return to school and college, it is vital to keep testing at home throughout the Easter holidays and into the summer term. Please pass on this message to all of your staff, students and parents:

- test twice a week at home from now on (all those who are able to)
- report results [online](#) as positive, negative or void. This information is critical in helping us to understand the prevalence of the virus across the country
- continue to test twice weekly over the Easter holidays
- test before returning to school or college for the summer term, either the night before, or morning of, the first day back, to find and isolate any positive cases

Families and households can also access [home test kits for adults](#).



Testing

- Testing at home does not require further written consent – **by completing the test, you are giving your consent.**

- Please read the online [privacy notice](#) explaining how, where and for how long your data is kept by NHS Test and Trace service.
- If your child has tested positive for Covid-19 in the previous 90-days, they are not required to undertake a lateral flow test (LFT). If you choose to use the tests and it tests positive, they will have to follow the Government's [self-isolation](#) guidelines.
- If the result is void, please **repeat** the test with another test from the home test box.

How to test

- Details on how to administer the tests can be found via the instruction leaflet accompanying the home test kit or via <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-self-test-help>. If you prefer a more visual guide there is video guidance [here](#).

Recording and reporting the result

- Parents and carers are required to register the result on <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result> or by telephone: **Dial 119**, within **24 hours of taking the test**. You will need the QR code on the lateral flow device or the ID number directly under it.

If your child tests positive

- Please report a positive test result to the school by telephone **Tel: 01245 264 451 ASAP** or via admin@boswells-school.com as this will enable us to trace any in school close contacts.
- All positive results from rapid lateral flow tests undertaken at home **do** need to be confirmed with a standard PCR test. This is because these tests are not conducted in a controlled environment and will not have trained staff on hand. Following a positive LFD test at home, a confirmatory PCR test should be [booked online](#) or by calling **119**. Whilst awaiting the PCR result, the student and their close contacts should self-isolate. If the PCR test is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD test (**at home only**) and a child can return to school.
- Please adhere to the [self-isolation](#) rules to ensure no further transmission of the virus.

Should your child display any symptoms, it is imperative you **do not** send them to school and you secure a test immediately. Should that test be positive at any time over the Easter break please email the school directly via admin@boswells-school.com. We will then establish close contacts of the student within the specified timeframe and we will inform students and staff if they need to self-isolate.

Yours sincerely,



Steve Mansell
Headteacher

