

Our Vision – 'All SWB students will be respectful, responsible learners experiencing a first class education'

RHU/ALA/March 2021

16 March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Update on twice weekly COVID-19 testing at home for students

I would firstly like to say how pleased we are to have been able to safely welcome students and staff back to school for the remainder of this term. It is great to see everyone settling in so well, and back learning in the classroom.

I would like to thank parents/carers and students for their ongoing support and cooperation with the testing programme.

As you will know, in line with the Government's guidance, we are in the process of moving to twice weekly Covid-19 testing at home, rather than at school. This is essential for helping to limit transmission of the virus, and to keep our students, staff and wider school community safe.

We will be sending home COVID-19 testing kits with your child starting from March 18th. Please make sure your child tests themselves **twice a week 3-5 days apart, in the morning before school if possible and, if not, the evening before.**

Your child should also **continue testing twice a week, at home, throughout the Easter school holidays.** We will be sending home extra kits for use during 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.

Up to 1 in 3 people who have COVID-19 have no symptoms and could be spreading it without knowing. Getting into a regular habit of testing twice a week will help stop the virus spreading, keeping your family and friends safer.

Reporting results

It is really important that results of test are reported online straight away, even if your child's result is negative or void. It's easy to do at www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result.

Results can also be reported via telephone by calling 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day, 7am to 11pm.

It is also important to keep a note of your child's results and **share positive or void results** with the academy by completing the [Student Home Testing Results Form](#). Further information can also be found on our [website](#).

During Easter holidays, the academy need to be informed if an individual testing positive, displayed symptoms within 48 hours of their last day at the academy. If positive COVID-19 cases are reported within 48 hours of the final day of term, the academy will identify close contacts and will advise the relevant individuals to self-isolate as a precautionary measure, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school.

Testing for parents, households 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.

Our Vision – 'All SWB students will be respectful, responsible learners experiencing a first class education'

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>

We continue to encourage everyone to take part in regular Covid-19 testing, in order to help safeguard our students, staff and wider school community.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support and cooperation, and please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Rod Hughes
Principal