



Venerable Bede Church of England Academy

Dayspring Trust



Tunstall Bank, Sunderland, SR2 0SX

Telephone: 0191 523 9745 Fax: 0191 523 9775

Email: venerable.bede@venerablebede.co.uk Website: www.venerablebede.co.uk

Headteacher: Mr D Airey (BSc Hons)

Executive Headteacher: Mrs G A Booth (BA Hons/M.Ed.)

DAI

16 March 2021

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

Dear parent/carer,

This week Pupils will be moving to twice weekly, rapid COVID-19 testing at home. This is following their first three supervised tests on site at school. The test kits will be given to pupils who have had their three tests in school **during their P5 lesson on Thursday** of this week.

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.

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.** An adult should supervise pupils to ensure that they carry out the tests appropriately. Full instructions are included in each test pack.

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

To be able to take part in home testing, your child needs to have completed three tests in school. Please get in touch with us using the General Enquiries [CONTACT US FORM HERE](#) if you would like your child to take part in home testing, but they have not yet had the school tests done. We will arrange for the school tests to be carried out as soon as practicable.

Home testing does not replace testing for those pupils **with symptoms**. If you have symptoms you must self-isolate immediately, book a PCR test and follow national guidelines.

Reporting results

It is really important that the results of tests are reported online straight away, even if your child's result is negative or void. This is easy to do using this link www.gov.uk/reportcovid19-result.

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

Pupils who test positive with a LFT test should report this to school using the VB COVID alert e-forms available on the school website – [click here](#). A PCR test should also be booked and taken to confirm the diagnosis. This can be accessed by [CLICKING HERE](#).



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. 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 [Households and bubbles of pupils, pupils and staff of schools and colleges: get rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/households-and-bubbles-of-pupils-pupils-and-staff-of-schools-and-colleges-get-rapid-lateral-flow-tests).

We would encourage everyone to take part in regular Covid-19 testing.

Yours faithfully



Mr. D. Airey
Headteacher

