



Bishop Douglass Catholic School

An Academy School in the Cardinal Hume Academies Trust

Headteacher: Mr Martin Tissot, MA, MBA, NPQH



Test and Trace

31 December 2020

NHS Test and Trace: Covid-19 Testing for Pupils

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I hope you have been able to enjoy a Merry Christmas with your family and a happy New Year to you all. I am sure you will have heard the announcement yesterday from Gavin Williamson about the delay to the return to school. I am writing to advise you of our plans as they currently stand and to update the letter sent out to you on the 21st of December.

Week Beginning Monday, 4th January:

- **Monday, 4th January** – staff INSET day to plan for the new rapid mass testing and online learning. **No pupils should attend school on this day.**
- **Tuesday, 5th January** – Year 12 pupils who have BTEC public examinations this week must come into school to be tested and to undertake an intervention session at 9am. Pupils whose **parents are critical workers, and who do not have alternative care arrangements**, can apply for their children to be educated in school from this day onwards. Please make sure you have completed consent forms for Covid-19 testing in school as they will be tested on that day. As previously advised, please complete the form and return for the provision of face-to-face supervision to: schooladmin@bishopdouglass.barnet.sch.uk
- **All pupils in Year 7-13** must access remote learning (via Teams) from **Tuesday, 5th January**. Timetables for remote learning will be made available on the school website.
- All being well, **Year 13 pupils** will be invited in to school on **Wednesday, 6th January** to be tested for Covid 19. Please make sure your child's consent form has been returned. **Year 12 pupils** on Thursday 7th January and **Year 11** on Friday 8th January. An additional letter will be sent next week with an allocated.
- **Monday, 11th January** – **pupils in Year 11, 12 and 13** return to school for face-to-face lessons and their second test.
- All being well, all remaining **pupils in Years 7-10** will be tested the week beginning 11th January. Year 7 on Tuesday 12th January, Year 8 on Wednesday 13th January, Year 9 on Thursday 14th January and Year 10 on Friday 15th January. A letter will be sent with their allocated time next week. They will return to school for face-to-face learning from **Monday, 18th January**, assuming they are symptom free and have not been told to self-isolate.

All pupils will have been given Microsoft Teams login details. Any pupils or parents experiencing issues with their access to remote learning, or needing technology support, can access support by emailing:

IT@bishopdouglass.barnet.sch.uk

We are working to keep our school as safe as possible. You may have heard that testing for all pupils and staff is beginning across the country using new, quicker Covid-19 tests, and our school will be starting this in January. Our own staff team will be testing staff once a week from 4 January 2020. In addition, the programme will help pupils to stay in education, by enabling close contacts of someone who tests positive to stay in school by consenting to a daily test for seven days. Pupils that test positive will be asked to take the same day a confirmatory PCH test and will be sent home to self-isolate for as long as is necessary.

We whole heartedly support this government initiative to test children and staff. In the best interests of everyone's safety and continuity of education, our target is for 100% of children to be tested. Please return your child's consent form for testing as soon as possible using the following on line link:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=wXU5P_pNNEqoxgzdGzgQ4crx3ws87CdCiK56OiK4p4dUOU9OVDYzWVICN0tDQTYwWDRJNzNWQTRBOS4u.

We will continue to support pupils with their education remotely. We recognise this may be disruptive for your family but it is really important to isolate to prevent the spread of the virus, and there is financial support available via the NHS app. Pupils might need collecting from school, so please discuss this with them. There is more advice on self-isolation and home learning on Gov.uk.

What if my child develops symptoms?

This testing programme at Bishop Douglass is for people with no symptoms. If your child develops symptoms at any time (such as a high temperature; a new, continuous cough; or a loss of change to your sense of smell or taste) they must immediately self-isolate, and book a test by calling 119 (England, Wales and Northern Ireland) or 0300 303 2713 (Scotland) or visiting <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

Those children eligible for free school meals will be allocated voucher support as previously. We will support staff and pupils throughout, but please contact us if you need this information in any other language or format or if you have any questions. You can call the office on 020 8444 5211 or email schooladmin@bishopdouglass.barnet.sch.uk.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs M Henderson
Head of School



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