



Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School

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15th September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Some of you may be aware that we have had some positive Covid test results returned for pupils in Year 9 over the last week or so. Firstly, I am sure you will be pleased to hear that all those involved have mild symptoms, or in some cases no symptoms at all. We cannot be certain exactly where each case picked up their infection but it is possible that some of them were from school contacts. We have been in touch with Hertfordshire Public Health to inquire as to whether we should be taking any further action as a school to prevent infection. They confirmed that the measures we already have in place should be effective and that it is likely that the case numbers will decline over the coming days. However, as a short term measure we are requesting the following:

- Year 9 pupils will be asked to wear masks in classrooms as well as in communal areas. Exemptions will continue to apply.
- Year 9 pupils should test themselves at home 3 times per week. We will be issuing them with more test kits in the coming days, but you can make your own request for kits using this link
<https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

Please remember that any pupil with Covid symptoms (fever, continuous cough, loss of sense of taste or smell) must stay at home and book a PCR test. If your child tests positive on the home test they must stay at home and also book a PCR test to confirm the result. We have had several cases where the PCR test has come back negative after a positive home test, thus allowing the pupil to return to school. It is really important that you do carry out these tests as they are an effective way of preventing the spread of infection. Please make sure that you report any positive results to the school, including where a positive PCR is received. Local Public Health do ask us to provide them with this information.

If your child does need to isolate at home then work will be posted for them using Google Classroom. Please be patient with staff regarding this - it is not always easy to post work at the start of the lesson. However, if no work is set by the end of the day then isolating pupils should email the relevant staff and ask them what work they should be doing.

Thank you for your continued support. I do appreciate how frustrating it must be for pupils to have to isolate so early in the term and we are doing our best to prevent this.

Yours sincerely,

Mr A Wood
Headteacher

"This is an OUTSTANDING school" - Ofsted 2016

