



Station Road, Burgess Hill
West Sussex, RH15 9EA

Our Ref ASE/ESD

T: 01444 241691

office@theburgesshillacademy.org.uk

www.theburgesshillacademy.org.uk

Acting Principal: Mr Anthony Snape

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Dear Parent/Carer

It has been a great half term here at the academy, despite the challenges that are still presented by the pandemic. The students have really adapted well to getting back to normal schooling and I have been so impressed by their efforts in lessons. We have seen the return of trips this term with a photography outing and a geography fieldwork exercise, and are looking forward to getting more of these up and running as the year progresses. Thank you for your support and patience with the technical difficulties we have suffered.

May I wish you and your family a happy half term break and we look forward to seeing the children return to school on Monday 1st November.

Covid Testing

Up to one in three people who have COVID-19 can spread the virus without knowing. This is because they have no symptoms. To reduce the spread of the virus, we need to identify those individuals. We can do this in school by carrying out tests at home twice every week, 3-4 days apart.

Testing students at home

Students are able to collect home test kits from The Burgess Hill Academy.

Before returning on 1st November, we would ask that students take their tests on the Sunday evening, and after that resume tests before school on a Monday and Thursday, however if this is a problem, then on a Sunday or Wednesday evening.

You will also need to tell the school the result of each test and we ask you to only do this via this link [log test results for school](#). **Please do not contact us via any other method in order to do this.**

Tests are free of charge. Students will receive a pack of tests in a box with a leaflet on how to take the test and report the results.

Make sure you have enough time to do the test before going to school. Preferably this would be in the morning before going into school. However, we understand that for some people this may be challenging. Therefore, tests can be taken the evening before school if needed. You need to report test results.

Taking the test

Students should take the test, before coming into school, twice a week. Tests include a leaflet with instructions on how to do the test with the kit.

Help and support is available, including instructions in different languages on how to test and report the results and a video showing you how to take the test.



There is no need to keep used test equipment after the test result has been reported. You can put it in your normal bin (household waste).

This does not replace symptomatic testing. If you have symptoms, you should self-isolate immediately, book a PCR test and follow national guidelines.

What should you do after the test?

If anyone tests **positive** they need to self-isolate immediately in line with NHS Test and Trace guidance.

You need to report your result to both NHS Test and Trace and your school log test results for school.

You should order a confirmatory PCR test if you are testing at home.

If the result of the test is **unclear (void)** you should do another test.

Negative and void results should be reported to both NHS Test & Trace and school log test results for school.

A negative result does not guarantee that you are not carrying the virus. So, you should continue to follow measures to reduce transmission such as wearing a face mask where advised and regularly washing your hands and observing social distancing.

If you or anyone in your household gets symptoms of the virus you should follow national guidelines.

You need to report each test result

The result of each test needs to be reported using the NHS Test & Trace self-report website: <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>.

You will also need to tell the school the result of each test log test results for school.

Why take part

Taking part in testing is voluntary and all students will be able to attend school whether they take part in testing or not.

We strongly encourage all students to take part. Testing at home will allow your child and other students to attend school as safely as possible.

Please contact myself as, COVID Co-ordinator via office@theburgesshillacademy.org.uk if you have any questions or concerns about home testing.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,



Anthony Snape
Acting Principal