

Biddick Lane
Washington
Tyne & Wear
NE38 8AL

Tel: 0191 511 1600
Fax: 0191 417 2897

Headteacher:
Miss K Morris



Biddick
Academy

24th February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you will be aware, this week the Prime Minister shared his roadmap for the move out of lockdown. I am delighted that schools can now plan to reopen from 8th March.

Asymptomatic Testing in School

As part of the return to school, students will be able to complete three lateral flow device (LFD) Covid-19 tests in the first two weeks back and one test administered at home.

The aim of the LFD is to pick-up asymptomatic cases; those students who feel well but actually have Covid-19. A positive result on the LFD enables the child to self-isolate for 10 days and reduces transmission in school. Testing on-site is of course voluntary and there is no expectation that you have your child tested in school. This is made clear in the Government guidance.

Due to the complexity of planning and delivering effective testing for all students, we will need to stagger the return over the course of the week commencing 8th March. During the phased return, remote lessons will continue. If you wish your child to take part in on-site testing, you must complete the consent form below, without this we will not be able to allow your child to undertake a LFD test. If you do not wish your child to take part in on-site testing, they will be able to return at the same time as their year group.

[Click here to complete the consent form and give or deny permission](#)

Please complete the form before the deadline of **Friday 26th February at 12.00 noon**

Full details regarding the times for testing and return dates for each year group will be sent out next week, along with a registration card and instructions for those students opting into the onsite testing.

Face Masks

Within the revised guidance published, it is made clear that for the foreseeable future, students will also be required to wear face coverings in any areas where social distancing is not possible, including in classrooms. I will need to insist that unless students are exempt from this, this guidance is followed to keep the school as safe as possible.

Over the next few days, you may well receive regular updates from me. Please rest assured, myself and staff at the Academy are doing everything we can to provide a safe and well-planned return to school for your child.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Morris'.

Miss K. Morris
Headteacher