



27th July 2021
lrr/bj/stjccovid19-270721

Dear Parent/Carer

STUDENT COVID-19 TESTING AT ST JOHN'S MARLBOROUGH – SEPTEMBER 2021

Further to my letter of 16th July, regarding the two on-site tests for all students before they return in September, I am now able to provide links to:

- the required consent form (for parents of new students only or for existing students who did not consent previously and now want to take part in the testing programme)
- privacy statement
- appointment booking system
- Government isolation guidance

This [Consent Form](#) is for participation in tests designed to detect asymptomatic coronavirus cases. Anyone experiencing symptoms should stay at home and follow [government guidelines to self-isolate](#), even if they have had a recent negative lateral flow test.

If you are an existing St John's parent and provided consent previously for the onsite testing carried out in March, you are not required to consent again as your consent is still valid. However, **all new** parents of students due to join St John's in September or **existing parents** whose children **did not take part** in testing previously but you would like them to undertake on-site testing before they return in September, are required to provide consent for your child to be tested.

Consent relates to the following groups of students/pupils as follows:

- **For new students younger than 16 years** - this form must be completed by the parent or legal guardian. Please complete one consent form for each child you wish to participate in testing.
- **New students over 16 who are able to provide informed consent** - can complete this form themselves, having discussed participation with their parent / guardian if under 18.
- **For any new student who does not have the capacity to provide informed consent** this form must be completed by the parent or legal guardian. Please complete one consent form for each child you wish to participate in testing.
- **Existing students who have not previously consented to on-site testing** following the above guidelines.

Please note your consent is for students to test themselves, there will be no assisted testing. Following their test your son/daughter will be sent home with their registration card including their unique barcode. You will have 24 hours to register them onto the Test and Track website. Please follow the guidance on the Registration Card or alternatively follow this link [Register a Test Result](#). We will contact you straight away if the result is positive and you will be required to follow [government guidelines to self-isolate](#) and seek a PCR test.

For ease of reference, the consent form covers the following points which are all as directed by GOVUK. For information on data collection, please also refer to the Department for Health and Social Care [Privacy Notice](#).

Terms of consent:

1. I have had the opportunity to consider the [information](#) provided by the school about the testing, ask questions and have had these answered satisfactorily.
2. In the case of under 16s, I have discussed the testing with my child and my child is happy to participate.



If on the day of testing they do not wish to take part, then they will not be made to do so and consent can be withdrawn at any time ahead of the test.

3. I consent to self-administering a nose and possibly a throat swab for lateral flow tests. I will be supervised and advised by staff but will **not** be assisted if unable to self-swab.
4. I understand that there will be two tests required and this consent covers all tests for me. If, on the day of testing I do not wish to take part, then I understand I will not be made to do so and that consent can be withdrawn at any time ahead of the test.
5. I consent that my sample(s) will be tested for the presence of COVID-19.
6. I understand that if my result(s) are negative on the lateral flow test I will **not** be contacted by the school.
7. If the LFT indicates a presence of COVID -19, the school will contact you straight away and you will be required to follow [government guidelines to self-isolate](#) and seek a PCR test.
8. If the lateral flow test indicates the presence of COVID-19, I understand that I will be required to self-isolate following public health advice.

The [appointment booking system](#) will allow you to book two tests for your child before they return to school in September. The system will go live **today** at 18:00, 27th July 2021.

Book all appointments using link above	
Thursday, 2 nd and Friday, 3 rd September	First test for all students (08:30 – 14:42)
Monday, 6 th September	Second test for students in Years 7,12 and 13(08:30 – 13:10) Second test for students in Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 (13:42-14:42)
Tuesday, 7 th September (Years 7 and 12 – Term begins)	Second test for students in Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 (08:30 – 14:42)
Wednesday, 8th September – All Students in school	

- The system operates in a similar way to the Parents' Evening Booking System. Please log in as usual or follow the [instructions](#) if using for the first time, select the Covid testing link and then select 'all bays' to see all the available appointments. We can accommodate all students wishing to take part on the Thursday and Friday. **First** tests can only be booked on these two days as there is no flexibility to run beyond Monday, 6th and Tuesday, 7th for second tests. We would ask for your patience and understanding with the booking system as we anticipate a high level of demand.
- As this is a highly logistical operation for us, students must not arrive too early for their test (we recommend 5 minutes before an appointment time) and they will need to leave the site immediately after having their test. We will be operating a strict one-way system through the testing area and face masks must be worn at all times (other than when testing) unless a medical exemption is in place. Hygiene arrangements will be clear.
- The testing programme is being run by a large army of school staff and volunteers from within our community. Without their support, we could not mobilise an operation of this scale in the window we have, and we must do everything we can to keep to the timescales. The team behind all of this understand the need to be both reassuring, understanding and efficient; please be assured, your son or daughter is in the safest of hands.

Notification of confirmed or suspected COVID-19 cases

It remains vital you let the school know through the COVID-19 email - covid-19@stjohns.excalibur.org.uk if you have any pandemic related concerns, we need to be aware of. This is particularly important if you need to take a test or have a positive case. We also continue to keep up to date our dedicated area on the school website which can be found at: <https://www.stjohns.excalibur.org.uk/latest-covid-19-information/>.

Thank you for your support with this request that schools have been asked to try and fulfil to the best of their abilities.

With kindest regards.



Mr I Tucker
Principal

