

13th January 2021
lrr/jcl/stjcovid1913012021

Dear Parents and Carers

CONSENT FORM FOR COVID-19 TESTING AT ST JOHN'S MARLBOROUGH

Please forgive the unusual lack of warmth in this letter which has had to follow GovUK guidance and tone.

The information in this consent letter and the consent form which can be found by following this [link](#) is for participation in tests designed to detect asymptomatic coronavirus cases. Anyone experiencing symptoms should follow [government guidelines to self-isolate](#), even if they have had a recent negative lateral flow test.

Consent relates to the following groups of students and staff as follows:

- **For 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.
- **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 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.

For ease of reference, the consent form covers the following points which are all as directed by GOVUK. Attached to this letter is the COVID-19 Testing Privacy Statement which contains a reference 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, based on the information presented in this letter dated 4th January 2021 and the attached Privacy Notice.
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 If on the day of testing they do not wish to take part, then they will not be made to do so, and consent can be withdrawn at any time ahead of the test.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 my child having a nose and throat swab for lateral flow tests. My child will self-swab if my child is able to, otherwise I understand that assistance is available. In the case of under 16s or students who are not able to provide informed consent, I have discussed the testing with my child, and they are happy to participate and self-swab (with assistance if required).
4. I understand that there may be multiple tests required and this consent covers all tests for my child. If, on the day of testing they do not wish to take part, then I understand they 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 child's sample(s) will be tested for the presence of COVID-19.
6. I understand that if my child's result(s) are negative on the lateral flow test I will not be contacted by the school except where they are a close contact of a confirmed positive.

7. If the lateral flow test indicates the presence of COVID-19, I consent to my child having a nose and throat swab for confirmatory PCR testing. They will follow the instructions on the PCR Kit to return the test the same day to an NHS Test & Trace laboratory.
8. If the lateral flow test indicates the presence of COVID-19, I commit to ensuring that my child is removed from the school premises as promptly as possible, bearing in mind they may have some anxiety following a positive test result.
9. I consent that they will need to self-isolate following a positive lateral flow test result, until the results of the confirmatory PCR have been received.
10. I agree that if my child's test results are confirmed to be positive from this PCR test, I will report this to the school, and I understand that my child will be required to self-isolate following public health advice.
11. I consent that if a close contact of my child tests positive, but my child has tested negative, they will continue to attend school but will be tested every day at school for 7 days.

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/>.

We are fortunate enough to have an Academy Nurse at St John's who monitors these concerns regularly and the sooner we know, the sooner we can take action. The same advice that we have been giving still applies in relation to not sending your son or daughter into school if they are showing any signs of being unwell.

The Twitter feed continues to be a very useful way of staying in touch with what St John's are doing in the community, so please follow that and re-tweet if you wish.

May I take this opportunity to once again wish you a Happy New Year and to thank you for your support.

With kindest regards



Mr I Tucker
Principal

