

Allerton Grange School



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Allerton Grange School
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Our ref: LSA/LBE/COVID-19

02 December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: COVID-19 Testing in School – Tuesday 4 January 2022

As you may be aware, schools have been asked to test students for Covid-19 when they return to school in January. We will be testing students on Tuesday 4 January. Testing is voluntary, but those eligible are strongly encouraged to participate. If you (and your child) agree for your child to be tested, they will be given a time slot during which to come into school to be tested. If they test negative they will be allowed to join their year group when they return to lessons. If the test is positive, students will be required, by law, to self-isolate and follow NHS Test and Trace guidance.

If you would like your child to participate in this programme, please complete the online consent form [Testing Consent Form](#) by the end of the day on **Wednesday 8 December**. If you have more than one child at the school, a separate form is required for each student. If your son/daughter is over-16, he/she can complete this form themselves.

Below is more information about the testing programme at Allerton Grange School, including the data privacy notice. After reading this information, if you consent to your son/daughter participating, please complete the most up to date consent form [Testing Consent Form](#)

Consent

In order to carry out tests, we are required to collect your consent if your son/daughter is under 16. Students over 16 can give their own consent, having discussed participation with their parent/guardian if under 18. Please complete this new, up-to-date, consent form even if you completed the form earlier this year.

This letter provides information on how the tests work. There is also a document outlining how your child's data will be used as part of this process. Please read both documents before completing the consent form.

What happens if you or your child does not consent to being tested?

If you or your child do not consent to your child being tested, you do not need to complete this form. It will not prevent your son/daughter from returning to school along with the rest of their year group.



What will happen when you have given your consent?

You will receive an appointment slot for your son/daughter, via text/email. Students will be asked to come into school for their appointment and return straight home afterwards.

Parents will not be permitted to accompany students to their appointment, except in exceptional circumstances, which must be agreed with the school in advance. We recognise that the self-swabbing part of the test may cause significant concerns for some young people, particularly those with SEND, and their families. Some of these concerns may be alleviated by contacting our SENCo, Mrs M Child, and agreeing strategies to help reduce anxiety and putting in place any reasonable adjustments (if the individual has a disability).

Those taking the test will be supervised and guided by trained Allerton Grange staff. The lateral flow tests are quick and easy to undertake, using a swab of the nose and throat.

Before the test

If you sign up for testing, we will post a registration card, with a barcode, out to you. **On the day of the test, please register this barcode using the instructions on the card.** The information that you register will ensure that you are informed of the results of the test. **All cards must be registered before students arrive for their appointment. Students must bring their cards and barcodes to their testing appointment.**

Receiving the results of the Lateral Flow Test

If the student is under 16, results of the test will be sent within 24 hours from the online NHS system to the mobile and email address that you used to register the barcode. If the student is 16 or over, they will receive the result to their email/mobile number submitted on the consent form.

Tests are free of charge.

What happens if a student tests positive?

If a student tests positive on a lateral flow device, they will be informed immediately by the school and will need to self-isolate, following the guidance from NHS Test and Trace. The parent/student will also receive a text/email notification of a positive result from the online NHS system. When the period of self-isolation is completed, students can return to school.

What happens if the test is negative?

There may be a small number of students who need to repeat the test (if the first test was invalid or void for some reason). Students who test negative will be able to return to school on the day their year group returns (further details to follow).

What if your child develops symptoms or is symptomatic on the day of the test?

This testing programme is for people with **no symptoms**. **It is very important that students do not attend their appointment in school if they are displaying symptoms of Covid-19.** If your child develops symptoms **at any time** (including a high temperature; a new, continuous cough; or a loss or change to their sense of smell or taste) **they must immediately self-isolate**, and book a test by calling 119 or visiting <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

We will support our students throughout this process, but please contact us at agadmin@allertongrange.com if you have any questions.

Yours faithfully



Mrs L Saunderson
Deputy Headteachers