



16th August 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

NHS Test and Trace: COVID-19 testing for students

Thank you for your continued engagement in the Covid-19 testing programme.

Based on current public health advice, testing will restart on our return to school in for the new term. We expect to offer your child **two** tests on-site before continuing regular testing at home.

This is the most effective way to reduce the risk of transmission and support the continuation of face-to-face education. We recognise, however, the need to minimise any disruption to education and to continue to support your child’s mental wellbeing. The government will continue to review the future need for testing in light of any changes to the public health situation.

Tests will be carried out in new year groups and we will be inviting each group in at staggered intervals on the following days -

Thursday 26th August	Yr 7 & 12 staggered arrival - test and home
Friday 27th August	Yrs 10, 11 & 13 in for tests and home
	Yr 7 & 12 in school for induction
Tuesday 31st August	Yrs 8 & 9 in for tests and home
	Yrs 7 & 10-13 in school
Wednesday 1st September	Whole school in
	Yrs 7 & 12 2nd test
Thursday 2nd September	Yrs 10,11 & 13 2nd test
Friday 3rd September	Yrs 8 & 9 2nd test

If you have already completed a consent form for onsite testing and you are happy for your child to be tested with the Orient Gene lateral flow device which requires nasal swabbing only, there is no need to complete another consent form. If your child is unable to undertake nasal swabbing, please inform the school in advance to arrange a pharyngeal (throat) swab lateral flow test.

Please advise the school if you wish to withdraw consent for onsite testing.

www.cleevepark-tkat.org

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Headteacher: Mrs Alex O'Donnell
Company Registration Number: 7348231



For year 7 students, and students who have not previously participated in the onsite testing programme, if you are happy for your child to be tested please complete the [Consent Form](#)

You will need to complete the form online for each child.

Those taking the test will be supervised by trained staff. The 'lateral flow' tests are quick and easy using a swab of your nose.

For any students who test positive we will contact parents directly. All students who are tested will bring home a registration card with details of how to register on the NHS testing site to give access to all results.

Your child in year 7 should attend school in full uniform on Thursday 26th August at the following times depending on the first letter of their surname -

A - F 10am

G - M 10.45am

N - Z 11.15am

Students should only attend if you have given consent for testing. Once tested students will return straight home, testing will take a maximum of 45 minutes. We will also be providing students with a supply of home test kits for September.

What happens if the test is negative?

If the initial test is negative your child should then attend school on the next school day.

During the second round of testing in school if the test is negative students will stay in school and resume their activities as normal. A student will only be told if they test positive on a 'lateral flow' test, so if you do not hear you can assume it was negative. A small number of students may need to repeat the test if the first test was invalid or void for some reason.

Please see the details regarding contact tracing attached to this letter for detailed information on what you need to do if your child tests positive for COVID-19.

What if my child develops symptoms?

This testing programme is for people with no symptoms. If your child develops symptoms at any time (such as 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 PCR test by calling 119 or visiting <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

We will support our staff and pupils throughout, but please contact us if you need this information in any other language or format or if you have any questions. You can contact the office in the usual way.

Yours faithfully,

Sandra Short
Executive Business Manager

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Changes to contact tracing in education and childcare settings

As you know, the Prime Minister announced on 12 July that Step 4 of the roadmap would go ahead on 19 July.

One of the key changes that took place from 19 July was that education and childcare settings will no longer be asked to conduct routine contact tracing. As with positive cases in any other setting, NHS Test and Trace will work with either the positive case – or in the case of children – the parents, carers or guardian of the positive case to identify close contacts.

NHS Test and Trace already manages the contact tracing process for the rest of society – including children who have recorded a positive PCR test – and has expertise in supporting people to identify close contacts.

The following sections set out in more detail how that process will work and what you need to do if your child tests positive for COVID-19.

Self-isolating and taking a test

If your child has symptoms, they and other members of the household should self-isolate – and you should inform their school. You should immediately order a PCR test for them. If the PCR result is negative, they and other members of their household can stop self-isolating (unless instructed to self-isolate for other reasons). If the PCR result is positive, they, other members of their household and any close contacts identified by NHS Track and Trace must self-isolate until 10 days after the onset of symptoms.

If your child has a positive result from a lateral flow device (LFD) test, they and other members of the household should self-isolate – and you should inform their school. You should immediately order a confirmatory PCR test. If the confirmatory test is taken within two days and the result is negative, they and other members of their household can stop self-isolating (unless instructed to self-isolate for other reasons). If the confirmatory PCR test is positive (or is taken more than two days after the LFD), other members of their household and any close contacts identified by NHS Track and Trace must self-isolate until 10 days after the LFD test.

PCR tests can be booked online through the [NHS Test & Trace website](#) or by calling 119.

PCR test results will be recorded with NHS Test and Trace automatically, but you should also communicate the result to the education or childcare setting during term time or summer provision.

Contact tracing

If your child gets a positive PCR test result, NHS Test and Trace will contact you, using the details you registered when ordering the PCR test. You and/or your child will be asked a series of specific questions designed to identify who your child has been in close contact with. Being in an education or childcare setting with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 will not necessarily mean a person is identified as a close contact.

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You will be asked to provide the contact details, if you know them, of any of the individuals – or their parents or guardians – who have been identified as close contacts. NHS Test and Trace will then get in touch with these close contacts and provide appropriate instructions or advice (see below).

Self-isolation and/or testing of close contacts

From 16 August, if the close contact is under 18, they will not have to self-isolate (in line with the policy for fully vaccinated adults) but will be asked to take a PCR test immediately, other than for very young children identified as non-household contacts, and they will not need to self-isolate while awaiting the results of the test. If the PCR test is positive, they will be required to self-isolate for 10 days from the date of the test. NHS Test and Trace will then get in touch to identify close contacts see 'contact tracing' above.

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