

ST. ANNE'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS



Act justly, love tenderly, walk humbly with your God

25 February 2021

Dear Parents / Carers

RE: NHS Test and Trace: COVID-19 asymptomatic testing for all students

We are working hard to keep St. Anne's learning family as safe as possible. You may have heard that as part of the plan for returning students to school, testing for those without coronavirus symptoms is beginning across the country using new, quicker COVID-19 tests known as 'lateral flow tests'.

Along with the other protective measures we are taking, these tests will help staff and students to remain in school safely. Up to one third of people who have coronavirus experience no symptoms. By testing we will help to stop the virus spread and help to keep our school open as safely as possible. The test is voluntary, but we would encourage everyone to take it.

We are aiming to test all staff and students who want to participate as soon as possible from week commencing 8th March 2021. The first of the 3 tests for each student will be on a day dedicated to testing and they will only come to school by appointment, take their test and then go home.

Lessons on site will restart from the following day. The following 2 tests will take place in school and your daughter will come out of lessons for a few minutes when called for her second and third test.

How to take part in the 3 tests per student offer:

Please find attached below an Instruction Leaflet with some more information about how the test works, a digital Consent Form link and a privacy notice.

I am happy for my child to be tested:

If you are happy for your child to be tested, please fill in the digital Form below to give consent electronically. The consent will be valid for each of the 3 tests, although you may change your mind at any time.

Make sure you fill in the digital consent form by Thursday 4th March 2021 otherwise we will not be able to offer your child a testing appointment in the week starting the 8th March. Once we have consent we will invite students for their first test which will be done by appointment only.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=7v4JU9tVEkOkrvCdPuUgBn_qzAHXwaJPhkdWx_SModpUMEFXREZVWUIHTDdXUFJRujZMNFpIRUJYMy4u

Students who take part in the 3 tests will then be able to access the offer to self-test under parental supervision at home. More information will be shared soon.

Those taking the test will be supervised by trained staff. The 'lateral flow' tests are quick and easy using a swab of the nose and throat, or both nostrils for students who are unable to self-test in the throat. Results will be sent by NHS in the form of a text to the mobile phone number given on the consent form. These tests are effective. Although they can have lower sensitivity, they are better at picking up cases when a person has higher viral load, hence the need to test frequently to start with.

Testing will be offered free of charge.

I am not happy for my child to be tested:

Headteacher: Mrs E. Loveland BA (Hons). NPQH

Upper School: Oakthorpe Road, Palmers Green, London N13 5TY
Lower School: 50 London Road, Enfield, EN2 6EL

admin@st-annes.enfield.sch.uk

Tel: 020 8886 2165 Fax: 020 8886 6552
Tel: 020 8366 0514 Fax: 020 8366 1168

www.st-annes.enfield.sch.uk



If you do not consent to your child being tested, you do not need to do anything. By not filling in the form we are aware that you are not consenting.

What if a student tests positive?

Participating staff and students who test positive will be informed about their results individually. Where participants are under 16, parents or legal guardians will also be notified. Guidance on safe travel and additional precautions will be provided along with test results.

Students will need to take a further 'PCR test' (similar to those done in local and regional testing sites) on the same day (or as soon as possible). You can go to www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or call 119 to book a follow-up test. If ordering a PCR test yourself, try to visit a drive-through test site if possible, as it is faster than requesting a home test. We can provide PCR test kits to perform at home if there are problems with accessing tests.

During this time, while waiting for the PCR result (via text / email), students will need to self-isolate. If the PCR test returns a positive result you will have to self-isolate and follow the guidance from NHS Test and Trace.

What happens if the test is negative?

Students will be able to 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.

What if a close contact at school tests positive?

A close contact of someone in school who has tested positive for COVID-19 will need to self-isolate as per the national guidelines. This does not apply to household members of a close contact who are still able to continue with their regular activities.

What if my child develops symptoms?

This testing programme at school 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 test by calling 119 or visit <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

We will support our staff and students throughout, but please contact us if you need this information in any other language or format or if you have any questions. Please let us know by email at admin@st-annes.enfield.sch.uk

Yours faithfully



Mrs E Loveland
Headteacher