



Whitburn Church of England Academy

An Academy with Specialist Status in Maths and Computing

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'Excellence for All'

24th February 2021

NHS Test and Trace: Consent for COVID-19 Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing for Students

Dear Parent/Carer

You will probably be aware from recent government announcements that schools will be offering rapid lateral flow testing for all students from 8th March. Since January, students accessing the in-school provision during lockdown, who have previously given consent, have been regularly tested and our testing provision is fully operational.

The government have deemed that it is necessary that three supervised tests must take place on site as a condition of being able to transition students to test at home. In order to fulfil the government's requirement to potentially test 1200 students on three separate occasions on site, it is essential that we know as soon as possible the number of students whose parents and carers have consented to their children being tested.

I would be grateful if you could read the attached privacy notice and documentation to allow us to be fully prepared for this scale of testing and organise the earliest date when students can return to school. Along with the other protective measures we are taking, these tests have been put in place to help staff and students remain in school safely. Up to one third of people who have COVID-19 experience no symptoms and this test is designed to identify those who are asymptomatic. **Please note that this test is voluntary and is offered free of charge.**

The 'Lateral Flow Device (LFD) Tests' are quick and involve a nose and throat swab. **Students will conduct their own swab test** and, for under 18s, trained staff will oversee this process. A small number of students may need to repeat the test if the first test was invalid or void for some reason. Results take around half an hour to process and students will be informed if the result is positive. Where participants are under 16, parents or legal guardians will also be informed if the test is positive. You will not be informed of a negative test result.

Registration and Consent

To process the test, we need to register all participating students. Please follow this link <https://tinyurl.com/4z8mnzwm> to complete an online registration form and the required consent statement. **This form needs to be completed for each individual student; a separate form must be completed for siblings who attend Whitburn C of E Academy.**

PTO

Document available in large font, alternative language or audio format on request



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Registered Office: Whitburn Church of England Academy, Whitburn, Sunderland, SR6 7EF

Please note by completing the online registration and consent forms, you are providing your consent as the parent or legal guardian of your child. Please can you complete the online registration form and, if it is given, the required consent statement by **3pm on Friday 26th February 2021**. **Non-return will be treated as consent NOT given.**

If you cannot access the link provided, please print off and complete the registration form and consent form at the end of this letter – and post these back to the Main Academy Office.

What is a Lateral Flow Test?

Lateral flow tests allow for a rapid turnaround of results and can be conducted without the need for a laboratory. The aim is to pick up asymptomatic carriers of COVID-19 to prevent unknowingly spreading the virus. Students will be asked to swab themselves under the supervision of a trained member of staff who will then conduct the lateral flow test. Any student with a positive result will be asked to self-isolate for 10 days in line with government guidelines. If a student is identified as a close contact of another student / staff member who has tested positive for COVID-19 then they will be asked to self isolate for 10 days from the date of first contact.

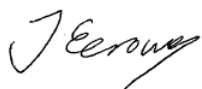
What if my child develops symptoms?

This testing programme at the Academy 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, along with the rest of the household, and book a test by calling 119 (England, Wales and Northern Ireland) or visiting <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

I will write to you all again early next week with further information regarding the logistics of the testing program and the phased return back to face to face learning in school.

We will support our students throughout but please contact us via the Main Office at office@whitburncofeacademy.org if you have questions.

Yours faithfully



J E Crowe
Principal

NHS Test and Trace Consent Form for COVID-19 testing – PAGE 1

This consent form 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. This common consent form has been designed for use by parents/guardians of students under 16 and students over 16.

Underlined sections should be read as applicable and completed as follows:

- **For pupils and 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**.
- **Pupils and 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 pupil or 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.

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 the letter dated 24th February 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.
4. I understand that there may be multiple tests required and this consent covers all tests for the below named person. 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 commit to ensuring that my child is removed from school premises as promptly as possible, bearing in mind they may have some anxiety following a positive test result.
8. I consent that they will need to self-isolate following a positive lateral flow test result.
9. I agree that if my child's test results are confirmed to be positive from this lateral flow test, I will report this to the school and I understand that my child will be required to self-isolate following public health advice.
10. I understand that if a close contact of my child tests positive that my child will self-isolate for 10 days in line with Government guidance.

NHS Test and Trace Consent Form for COVID-19 testing – PAGE 2

First Name of person to be tested (print)	
Last Name of person to be tested (print)	
Year group (if applicable)	
Date of Birth	
Gender at birth – <i>this information is needed for Department for Health and Social Care research purposes.</i>	Male/Female
Ethnicity - <i>this information is needed for Department for Health and Social Care research purposes.</i>	Asian or Asian British Black, African, Black British or Caribbean Mixed or multiple ethnic groups White Prefer not to say
Currently showing any COVID-19 symptoms?	
Home Postcode	
First line of home address	
Email Address – <i>this is where test results will be sent</i>	
Mobile Number – <i>this is where test results will be sent. Please do not put a landline number – you can only receive test results to a mobile number.</i>	
Name of parent/guardian giving consent if under 16 (print)	
Relationship to child (if under 16) (print)	
Details of any health or accessibility issues which might affect your / your child’s safe participation in the testing exercise. (Please put N/A if no issues.)	
Signature	
Today’s date	