

Dear Parents and Carers

Following the news that all pupils will be allowed to start returning to schools on the 8th March, we now need to ask you for your consent to test your child for COVID-19.

The Government have recommended that all pupils of secondary school age should be tested 3 times at the beginning of the return to school as asymptomatic testing is an important tool for helping to break the chains of transmission of the virus. Testing is extremely important, and we would strongly urge you to support us in allowing your child to be tested.

We have been successfully running these tests throughout term 3 for both staff and the children who have been in school.

To try and minimise disruption to learning and to get the pupils back into school as quickly as possible, we aim to start the testing on Wednesday 3rd March. We are planning to test all pupils with consent by the end of the day on Friday 5th. This will mean that we will be able to fully open the school on Monday 8th March. During the following two weeks we will continue with the second and third tests, but these should take place relatively quickly and with minimal impact on learning.

The testing schedule for next week is as follows:

| Date | Testing |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Wednesday 3 rd March | 7 and 11 |
| Thursday 4 th March | 9 and 10 |
| Friday 5 th March | 8, 12 and 13 |

- The pupils will be supervised to administer the tests themselves.
- The results take about 30 mins.
- Each testing station is cleaned between tests.
- We will contact you if your child has a positive result and provide you with guidance as to what you should do next.
- Booking will be done using our parent evening system. We will inform you when this is open.

For us to be able to test the pupils we need consent forms to be completed. We have tried to make this as easy as possible and have created a google form that you can complete online and then submit to us. The information on the form is required for us to be able to process the test and upload it to the NHS website.

[Consent Form](#)

If you are unable to access the google form, then I have attached a copy to this email. Please return these to the office at admin@saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk Each child will need a separate consent form.

I appreciate that there is a very short time to get these done so thank you for your support in this.

I have also attached some additional information about the lateral flow tests which I hope will answer some of your questions.

I will be writing to you again next week with more information about booking times for the test.

Thank you for all your support during these very difficult times.



Matt Lillie
Head of School