

25th February 2021

Consent for lateral flow testing

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are looking forward to welcoming all students back into school week commencing 15th March. We will be letting you know our plans for the phased return of students during that first week as soon as possible.

Today, we are writing to ask for your support with our re-opening plans by completing the consent form for lateral flow testing. As students return to school, we will be testing them using the lateral flow device, on three occasions during the first two weeks of the term. Each test should be taken 3-5 days apart. This asymptomatic testing will help to identify positive cases more quickly and break the chains of transmission. Those who test positive will be required to self-isolate, helping to reduce transmission of the virus. I am therefore strongly encouraging students to be tested.

In order to help us with our planning, please can you complete the consent form for your child/children (each child will need a form). **Please complete this form even if you do not want your child to take part in the lateral flow testing.** You will be required to read the Privacy Notice sent alongside this letter and confirm your agreement before consent can be given. It is not compulsory to give consent for this testing programme and consent can be withdrawn at any time. Parents/carers of key worker or vulnerable children who have already given consent for testing are not required to complete the form again.

Please click the link below to access the consent form. Completed forms should be returned no later than **4pm on Wednesday 10th March 2021** to allow sufficient time for the participating students to be registered prior to testing taking place.

Click here to complete the [consent form](#).

You will find some more details regarding the lateral flow test on the next page. We will support our students throughout, but please contact us on enquiries@corbytechnicalschool.org if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs A Reynolds
Principal

How the tests work

Those taking the test will be supervised by trained staff. The lateral flow tests are quick and easy to undertake, using a swab of the nose and throat. The results are available around 30 minutes after the test is taken. The school will inform the student immediately of a positive test result. Parents or legal guardians will also be informed. The notification of a positive or negative result from the online NHS system will be sent to all participants, by the end of the day, using the contact details provided on the consent form.

What if my child tests positive?

If a student tests positive on a lateral flow device, they will be informed immediately by the school and will be asked to commence self-isolation. Parents/carers will be informed and asked if they wish to collect their child or if they consent to the child making their own way home. Students should not use public transport. There is no requirement to take a 'PCR test' to confirm the result. All other members of the household should follow the [stay at home guidance](#).

What happens if the test is negative?

While a small number of students may need to repeat the test if the first test was invalid or void for some reason, students who test negative will be able to stay in school and resume their activities as normal. Students can assume they have a negative test unless they are advised otherwise. Parents or guardians will be informed of negative test results via text by the end of the day.

What if students have been in close contact with someone in school who tests positive?

Students who are identified as close contacts of a positive case in school will be required to self-isolate and follow the [government guidance for close contacts](#).

What if my child develops symptoms?

The testing programme at school is for people with no symptoms. 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 www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test