

Tudor Grange Samworth Academy

A Church of England School



Wednesday 13th January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer(s)

I am writing to update you on the testing programme that we will be launching in school next week. This will initially be for any pupil attending school during this period of lockdown.

You may have heard that testing for those without coronavirus symptoms is beginning across the country using new, quicker COVID19 tests known as 'lateral flow devices'.

By testing we will help to reduce the spread in school settings through asymptomatic transmission. I am therefore strongly encouraging those returning to school to be tested.

Our plan for testing

- We will be looking to test all staff and all students.
- **We will begin** by testing those students who are attending our small **school provision only**.
- Testing will be offered to all students when school reopens.
- Any staff member or student who has come into contact with positive cases in our school can be tested daily for seven days to allow them to remain in school.

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.
- **Click [here](#) for a leaflet which shows 'how to do your test'**.
- Results will be shared via text or email, usually within half an hour.
- The school will inform the student of a positive test result. Parents/carers will also be informed.

What if my child tests positive?

- If a pupil tests positive, they will be informed immediately and will need to take a further 'PCR test' to confirm the result. This should be on the same day or as soon as possible afterwards.
- During the time while waiting for the PCR result they will need to self-isolate.
- If the PCR test returns a positive result they will have to continue to self-isolate and follow the guidance from NHS Test and Trace.

What happens if the test is negative?

- While a small number of pupils may need to repeat the test if the first test was invalid or void, pupils who test negative will be able to stay in school and resume learning as normal.
- Results will be shared via text or email, usually within half an hour.

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

- The staff member or student will be notified.
- If consent is given close contacts will be tested each day for a maximum period of 7 days. They will remain in school if the test result is negative.
- If you are contacted by NHS Test and Trace you should notify them that you are participating in daily contact testing in school.

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 (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 <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

How often will my child be tested?

- Routine testing of staff and students will take place on Mondays and Thursdays in school.
- If a student is a close contact of someone who has tested positive, they can be tested daily for a 7 day period and remain in school.

How do I give consent?

- All parents will need to give consent via our online School Screener service. Below is a step-by-step access guide.

Step 1: School Screener registration

Click on the link below, select register now and enter the details required. **You do not need your child's NHS ID.**

<https://app.schoolscreener.com/Portal/#/Covidmanager/p/CovidTesting/144479>

- You will be emailed a link to confirm your email address. If you do not receive this email to your inbox, please also check your junk folder
- Follow this link and set a password.
- Your account is now set up.

Step 2: Give consent

Follow this link portal.schoolscreener.com

- Enter your email address and password and click login.
- You will now see a box titled 'Covid Testing'.
- Select 'Fill in the questionnaire form'
- Make sure the correct school is selected in the 'Create a Submission' box, and then click Next.
- Enter all of the required information about the person who will be tested: either yourself or your child. Once this is complete, click Save and Continue
- You will then be provided with information about the Covid Testing. Once you have read this, please record your consent at the bottom of the page. Then add your name and click Submit.

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Step 3: Registering another child

If you have another child at the school, repeat steps detailed above.

If you have any queries please contact us at office@samworth.tgacademy.org.uk or call 0116 278 0232.

Please click [here](#) for details on TGSA Covid Testing Privacy Notice.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Bannon', written over a light blue rectangular background.

Mr A Bannon
Associate Principal

