

Carshalton Boys Sports College



23 February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

NHS Test and Trace: COVID-19 testing for students

Details of how Carshalton Boys Sports College will be implementing the return of students on Monday 8 March 2021 is outlined in our separate communication attached, detailing times of testing etc.

As you will know from government announcements schools will be continuing to carry out testing of students, using the quicker COVID-19 tests known as 'lateral flow devices'. This programme was rolled out in schools commencing January 2021 and we have tested staff who have been working on site and students who have been in school as part of the Key Worker, vulnerable or students with an EHCP etc provision.

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 reduce the virus from spreading. **The test is voluntary**, but the DfE are encouraging everyone to take it.

Plan for testing

It is our plan to roll out testing to all student as detailed below.

Monday 8 th March	Mass testing day 1 (years 10-13) Years 7-9 at home	Students in for test only at allotted time (see table below)	No work set; Department planning and preparation day
Tuesday 9 th March	Mass testing day 2 (years 7-9) Years 10-13 at home	Students in for test only at allotted time (see table below)	No work set; Department planning and preparation day
Wednesday 10 th March	Teaching day	All students in school- normal time	P1 tutor time; Classroom based teaching resumes from P2
Thursday 11 th March	Teaching day Mass testing day 2	All students in school- normal time	Normal timetable; Y10-13 take test 2 during day
Friday 12 th March	Teaching day Mass testing day 2	All students in school- normal time	Normal timetable; Y7-9 take test 2 during day
Monday 15th March	Teaching day Mass testing day 3	All students in school	Normal timetable; Y10-13 take test 3 during day
Tuesday 16th March	Teaching day Mass testing day 3	All students in school	Normal timetable; Y7-9 take test 3 during day

However, in the meantime, we would be grateful if you would complete the google consent form (link below) to either give your consent for your child to be tested or to withhold your consent. We will use the information given to register your child for COVID-19 testing.

Google Consent form link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1XLQLE2wqDZhCC2_imb5TvHFoAVRQbsHLjCO2Qwod8Ew/edit

"Making a Difference"

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If your child is identified as being in contact with a positive case your child will be required to self-isolate at home for 10 days.

How the tests work

Those taking the test will be supervised by trained staff and volunteers. The 'lateral flow tests' are quick and easy to undertake, using a swab of the nose and throat. For students under 18 years old staff can oversee the swab process.

Results (which take around half an hour from testing) will be shared with the parent/carer who has given their contact details on the google consent form.

What happens if the test is positive?

If it is a positive result the parent/carer will be contacted by school. If your child is on site you will be advised to collect him/he. Your child must self isolate for 10 days. You will also receive further guidance from NHS Test and Trace.

What happens if the test is negative?

If the test result is negative this will be communicated to the contact parent/carer via NHS Test and Trace.

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

The staff member or student (and the student's parent/carer) will be notified if they are a close contact by the school **and your child must self-isolate for 10 days. If this scenario does arise further information will be issued to parents.**

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>.

We will support our staff and students throughout, but please contact us if you have any questions. You can contact the Admin Team by email admin@carshaltonboys.org.

To prepare for this, I am requesting that you complete the google consent form confirming that you **do or do not** give consent for your child to be included in the lateral flow test programme. If you do consent for your child to be tested in school it would be helpful for you to go through the process with him in advance (as detailed on the How To Do Your Test information sheet).

The government have also outlined that once testing of students is completed in school that parents will be provided with home test kits for regular testing at home. Currently we do not have any further information regarding this, we will update you regarding this as soon as this is published.

Testing remains voluntary but strongly encouraged.

Yours sincerely



Simon Barber
Principal