



# HOLY TRINITY

A Catholic and Church of England Voluntary Academy  
The Hallam Schools' Partnership Academy Trust

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3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

We are looking forward to all pupils returning to school next week. The DfE have confirmed that schools will need to carry out a 'lateral flow test' on all consenting pupils as they return to school. Pupils will be tested on a further two occasions by Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March.

### **NHS Test and Trace: COVID-19 testing for staff and students**

As you may be aware, our testing centre has been operational since 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021 and we have been successfully testing pupils and staff who are on site at this time. Along with the other protective measures we are taking, these tests will help staff and pupils to remain in school safely. Up to one third of people who have coronavirus experience no symptoms. By testing, we will help to stop the virus spread and help to keep our school open as safely as possible. The test is voluntary, but we would strongly encourage everyone to take it.

If you are happy for your child to be tested, when they do return to school, please fill in the consent form (one per child in your household) by following the link below. Thank you to all parents/carers who have already completed this.

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=aFUN4dleKk6H9P9hq1wuidcjNjhrKXROqAH\\_Y5RVntIUNzEzMVRBQTRMTIdYRUVLVfK1VIFUQIBSMS4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=aFUN4dleKk6H9P9hq1wuidcjNjhrKXROqAH_Y5RVntIUNzEzMVRBQTRMTIdYRUVLVfK1VIFUQIBSMS4u)

Trained staff will supervise those taking the test. The 'lateral flow tests' are quick and easy, using a swab of the nose and throat. For under 16s, staff can oversee the swab process. I enclose an instructional leaflet with some more information on 'how to do the test'. It would be very helpful if you could go through this with your child, so they are aware of the information prior to taking a 'lateral flow test'.

### **What if a student tests positive?**

Participating students who test positive will be informed about their results individually. If participants are under 16, parents or carers/legal guardians will also be notified to collect their child. Your child will need to self-isolate for 10 days from the positive test result and follow the guidance from NHS Test and Trace.

### **What happens if the test is negative?**

Your child will be able to stay in school and resume their activities as normal. A student will only be told if they test positive on a 'lateral flow test', so if you do not hear anything via your email or mobile phone, you can assume it was negative. A small number of students may need to repeat the test if the first test was invalid or void for some reason.

**What if my child is a close contact of someone in school who tests positive?**

If your child has been in close contact with someone in school who has tested positive for COVID-19, you will be informed so you can collect them as soon as possible from school; they must then self-isolate for 10 days.

Please note - household members or close contacts outside of school of a pupil who tests positive using the 'lateral flow test' in school, still need to self-isolate. They cannot come on site to be tested; the 'lateral flow testing' is only for Holy Trinity pupils and staff.

**Home Testing**

After their third test in school, your child will be supplied with LFD test kits to self-swab and test themselves twice a week at home (instructions are provided in the home test kits). You must report your child's result to NHS Test and Trace as soon as the test is completed either online or by telephone as per the instructions in the home test kit. Please ensure that you also share the result, whether void, positive or negative, with the school to help with contact tracing. You will receive further details of how to share home testing results with school once you have completed the lateral flow consent form for your child.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us via the school email address, [info@holytrinitybarnsley.org](mailto:info@holytrinitybarnsley.org).

Yours sincerely



MRS L OLDCORN  
Acting Headteacher