



Assalaamu Alaikum – ‘Peace be upon you’

Dear Parents/Guardians

RE: March 8th Reopening and Lateral Flow Testing

We are very much looking forward to welcoming back all students to school from 8th March 2021. It has been a lengthy absence and the staff have missed the face-to-face interactions with their classes. I am sure that your girls have also missed being in school.

The start of term will be a phased return. **Years 7-9 will return on Monday 8th March, with Years 10-11 returning on Tuesday 9th March.** Remote learning will continue for Years 10-11 on Monday 8th March. Students should return to school at the normal school start times, with registration starting at 8:15am. This will allow the school to ‘reset’ our expectations with Years 7-9 and help them to reintegrate with the school being less populated. You will have also noted that for secondary school pupils, **the wearing of face coverings on school site will be a requirement. Please ensure that your daughters have an appropriate face covering each day.**

However, in order to ensure that the school is as safe as possible, and in line with government expectations, we will be running a **Covid-19 Lateral Flow Test programme for all consenting students.** This is completely voluntary and is dependent on your consent. **The testing programme will start from Thursday 4th March.** If you consent to your daughter taking part in the testing programme, please read the guidance included with this letter, and sign the consent form. The form can be emailed back to school, or your daughter can bring it with her for her first test. A paper copy of this letter and form has also been posted to all home addresses.

The programme for testing will begin as follows:

Thursday 4th March:

- Students in Year 7 should come to the sports hall between 8am and 10am for their 1st test
- Students in Year 8 should come to the sports hall between 10am and 12pm for their 1st test
- Students in Year 9 should come to the sports hall between 1pm and 3pm for their 1st test

Friday 5th March:

- Students in Year 10 should come to the sports hall between 8am and 10am for their 1st test
- Students in Year 11 should come to the sports hall between 10am and 12pm for their 1st test





Eden Girls

The testing process takes around 5-10 minutes and parents should wait in the staff carpark, maintaining social distancing from other parents and staff. **All students should have a parental consent form with them, confirming that you are happy for the test to take place.** Details of the test process are included in this letter. The outcomes of the test will be texted to parents by the end of the day.

Please note, participation in the testing process is not mandatory, but encouraged. Students will not be excluded from learning if they do not take part in the testing process.

Regards

Anand Patel

Principal

02476 220937 | Anand.Patel@egcoventry.staracademies.org



COVID-19 Rapid Tests Registration and Consent Form – Year 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11

- **For pupils aged 16 years or younger (in Year 7 to 11)** - this form must be completed by the parent or legal guardian. Please complete one consent form for each child you wish to enrol.
1. I have had the opportunity to consider the information provided by the school about the testing, ask questions and have had these answered satisfactorily, based on the information presented in the letter.
 2. I have discussed the testing with my child and my child is happy to participate. If on the day of testing they do not wish to take part, then they will not be made to do so and consent can be withdrawn at any time ahead of the test.
 3. I consent to my child having a nose and throat swab for a lateral flow test.
 4. I consent that my child's sample(s) will be tested for the presence of COVID-19.
 5. I understand that if my child's results are negative on the lateral flow test, I will not be contacted by the school except where they are a close contact of a confirmed positive.
 6. If the lateral flow test indicates the presence of COVID-19, I consent to my child having a nose and throat swab for confirmatory PCR testing, which shall be sent the same day to an NHS Test & Trace laboratory.
 7. I consent that they will need to self-isolate following a positive lateral flow test result, until the results of the confirmatory PCR have been received.
 8. I agree that if my child's test results are confirmed to be positive from this PCR test, I will report this to the school and I understand that my child will be required to self-isolate following public health advice.
 9. I consent that if a close contact of my child tests positive, but my child has tested negative, they will continue to attend school but will be tested every day at school for 7 days.

First Name (of pupil)	
Last Name (of pupil)	
Date of Birth (of pupil)	
Year Group	
Currently showing any COVID-19 symptoms?	
Home Postcode	
Email Address	
Parent's Mobile Number	
Name of parent or guardian (print)	
Signature of parent	
Date	
Relationship to student	



Additional Information



Test and Trace

HOW TO DO YOUR TEST

WHILE THIS IS A SELF-SWAB TEST, THERE WILL BE A TESTING HELPER WHO WILL OVERSEE THINGS AND PROVIDE HELP IF YOU NEED

1 YOUR COVID-19 TEST WILL BE SCHEDULED. IF YOU ARE UNDER 16, YOUR PARENT / CARER WILL HAVE CONSENTED

2 YOUR TEST WILL BE FAST AND WHILE IT MIGHT FEEL A LITTLE UNCOMFORTABLE, IT WON'T HURT YOU

3 BLOW YOUR NOSE IF NEEDED. WASH AND DRY/SANITISE YOUR HANDS. REMOVE THE SWAB BEING CAREFUL NOT TO TOUCH THE SOFT PART

4 OPEN YOUR MOUTH WIDE AND USE A MIRROR TO LOOK AT THE BACK OF YOUR THROAT, THEN USE THE SWAB TO RUB FIRMLY 4 TIMES ON EACH SIDE

10 SECS

5 REMOVE THE SWAB CAREFULLY WITHOUT TOUCHING YOUR TEETH, TONGUE OR GUMS

6 GENTLY PLACE IT ABOUT 2-2.5 CM INSIDE ONE OF YOUR NOSTRILS. ROLL THE SWAB 4-5 TIMES ALONG THE LINING OF THE NOSTRIL, THIS WILL TAKE 10-15 SECONDS

7 AFTER THIS, YOU'RE DONE, GENTLY REMOVE THE SWAB BEING CAREFUL NOT TO LET ANYTHING TOUCH THE TIP

8 YOUR SWAB CAN THEN BE PLACED IN A TUBE FOR TESTING, THIS TAKES ABOUT 30 MINUTES

9 YOUR SCHOOL / COLLEGE WILL CONTACT YOU OR YOUR PARENT / CARER WITH THE RESULTS AND LET YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS NEXT



Do these tests work?

In validation studies conducted by Oxford University and Public Health England, these tests were shown to be as accurate in identifying a case as a PCR test (99.68% specificity). The tests have lower sensitivity, but they are better at picking up cases when a person has higher viral load, hence the need to test frequently.

What if a pupil tests positive?

Participating staff and pupils who test positive will be informed about their results individually. Where participants are under 16, parents or legal guardians will also be notified. Guidance on safe travel and additional precautions will be provided along with test results.

Pupils will need to take a further 'PCR test' (similar to those done in local and regional testing sites) on the same day (or as soon as possible). The school will be able to provide these PCR test kits to perform at home or you can go to www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or call 119 to book a follow-up test. If ordering a PCR test yourselves, they should choose to visit a drive-through test site if possible, as it is faster than requesting a home test.

During this time while they wait for the PCR result (via text / email), they will need to self-isolate.

If the PCR test returns a positive result, you will have to self-isolate and follow the guidance from NHS Test and Trace.

What happens if the test is negative?

They will be able to stay in school and resume their activities as normal. A pupil will only be told if they test positive on a 'lateral flow' test, so if you do not hear you can assume it was negative. A small number of pupils may need to repeat the test if the first test was invalid or void for some reason.

What if a close contact at school/college tests positive?

A close contact of someone in school/college who has tested positive for COVID-19 will be able to return to school if they agree to be tested once a day for 7 days and the test is negative. If they do not want to take the test, they will need to self-isolate as per the national guidelines.

This does not apply to household members or close contacts outside of school who will still need to self-isolate. Further details will be provided at the time, but if you would prefer to self-isolate instead of doing daily testing, you can.

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 (such as 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 (England, Wales and Northern Ireland) or 0300 303 2713 (Scotland) or visiting <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.