



Dear Parents/carers

Autumn testing arrangements

Subject to public health advice testing will restart on return in the autumn. We expect to offer students **two** tests on-site before you continue regular testing at home. Over the next two weeks students will be tested in school. If you are new to the school or haven't already done so can I encourage parents to sign the online consent form available on our website or by clicking the link below: <https://forms.office.com/r/xurZ1mnk4h>

This is the most effective way to reduce the risk of transmission and support the continuation of face-to-face education. We recognise, however, the need to minimise any disruption to education and to continue to support your child's mental wellbeing. The government will continue to review the future need for testing in light of any changes to the public health situation.

You must report your results on the government website, even if your result is negative or void.

Reporting results is easy. Go to [report a COVID-19 lateral flow test result](#) or call 119 free from a mobile or landline. Lines are open every day, 7am to 11pm. Support is offered in 200 languages as well as British Sign Language. You should share any **positive results** with the school by emailing Covid@jorichardson.org.uk and calling our student services department to report your child's absence. Please do not send us notifications of negative results.

Testing twice weekly is helping us stay ahead of the virus by spotting new outbreaks quickly and plan our response. The preparations that schools and colleges are advised to take are subject to further public health advice and the latest position on prevalence of the COVID-19 virus.

Close contacts of a positive COVID-19 case in all education and childcare sectors

From Monday 16 August unvaccinated young people up to the age of 18 years and 6 months and fully vaccinated adults, are no longer required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19.

Those identified as a close contact will be informed by NHS Test and Trace that they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. We strongly encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so. There is no requirement to self-isolate while awaiting PCR test results and so individuals can attend their setting as usual.

Children and young people who attend an education or childcare setting and who have been identified as a close contact, should continue to attend their setting as normal.

18-year-olds will be treated in the same way as children and young people until 6 months after their 18th birthday, to allow them the opportunity to get fully vaccinated. At which point, they will be subject to the same rules as adults and so if they choose not to get vaccinated, they will need to self-isolate if identified as a close contact.

Yours faithfully,

L Keane
Headteacher