

Schedule for Testing and Staggered Start – Communication 1b

I write to you about the rapid on-site testing that will take place in school to help identify people who are infectious but do not have any coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms.

The Government Guidance published on 29 November 2021 identifies that all pupils need to be offered the opportunity to be tested once at school following the Christmas break. The Asymptomatic Test Site (ATS) has been operating since January 2021 staffed by an experienced team. For this reason, we can test two-year groups per day so that all pupils will be back in school by the end of the first week of the Spring Term. Once pupils have had their on-site test, they will be provided with test kits to continue with regular testing at home as per Government Guidance.

By testing, we will help to reduce the spread within our school community through asymptomatic transmission. Whilst testing remains voluntary, we strongly encourage those in school to be tested when invited to do so.

Covid test dates by year group and return to school

	Covid-19 Test Day*	Return to school
Year 11	Tuesday 4 January 2022	Wednesday 5 January 2022
Year 7	Tuesday 4 January 2022	Wednesday 5 January 2022
Year 8	Wednesday 5 January 2022	Thursday 6 January 2022
Year 9	Wednesday 5 January 2022	Thursday 6 January 2022
Year 10	Thursday 6 January 2022	Friday 7 January 2022

*Pupils will come into school with their tutor group at their allocated time and will leave the school site as soon as they have had their test – see schedule later in this communication.

How the tests work

Those taking the test will be supervised by trained school staff and trained volunteers. The lateral flow tests are quick and easy to undertake. Pupils will **self-swab** with guidance from staff working in the centre.

What if my child tests positive?

If a pupil tests positive on an LFD, they will be informed immediately by the school and isolated from others. Parents/carers will be notified so that immediate collection of their child from the school can be organised. The pupil 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 using a regional testing centre and is the responsibility of the parents or carers to organise.

During the time while waiting for the PCR result (which will be sent via text/email) the pupil will need to self-isolate at home as per Government Guidance/advised by NHS Test and Trace. If the PCR test returns a positive result the pupil will have to continue to self-isolate at home 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 resume their activities as normal. The school will not notify pupils of a negative test result. If the pupil has signed up to the NHS Lite Registration online service, pupils will be informed of negative test results via this service in a text/email. Where participants are under 16, parents or carers will also be informed.

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 PCR test by calling 119 or visiting <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

Parent/carer consent for on-site LFD Testing

Following this letter, you will be sent a consent form (Communication 1c) with a link to follow for its completion – we ask that parents/carers complete the form and submit by **midday on 30 December 2021**

Thank you for taking the time to read this lengthy communication. Please be assured that we will support pupils throughout the testing process. Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions using office@camshill.com.

Miss Rachel Matthews (Deputy Headteacher)

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To limit the number of people and manage the safe movement on site, we are inviting pupils into school a tutor group at a time. Each tutor group has a 15-minute time slot, which must be followed to ensure the safety of both pupils and staff working on site. All pupils should arrive at the beginning of their allocated time-slot. Pupils can come to school in casual clothes; there is no requirement for pupils to wear school uniform.

Please ensure that pupils who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms or are required to self-isolate as advised by NHS Test and Trace, do not attend school.

We ask pupils, parents, and carers to take note of the following:

- **Pupils must not eat or drink for up to 30 minutes ahead of the test**
- Pupils will need to come onto the school site using the Main Entrance on Shearwater Avenue and make their way directly to the blue courts next to the Sports Hall (in the event of very heavy rain, pupils will muster in the Dance Studio);
- Pupils must not enter the school building until invited to do so. Staff will be present to direct pupils;
- We request that parents/carers remain in their cars in the car park. Please note parking space is limited;
- Pupils, parents/carers are not permitted to gather in the car park, bus bay or at the Main Entrance gates;
- Pupils will need to:
 - bring a mask to wear on entry to the Test Centre;
 - hand sanitise before entering the school site (we ask pupils to bring their own hand sanitiser);
 - follow staff instructions.

11C	11A	11M	11S	11H	11I	11L1	11L2 and 11L3
0900	0915	0930	0945	1000	1015	1030	1045

Tuesday 4 January 2022

Tuesday 4 January 2022

7C1	7C2	7C3	7C4	7C5	7H1	7H2	7H3	7H4	7H5
1130	1145	1200	1215	1230	1245	1300	1315	1330	1345

Wednesday 5 January 2022

8C1	8C2	8C3	8C4	8C5	8H1	8H2	8H3	8H4	8H5
0830	0845	0900	0915	0930	0945	1000	1015	1030	1045

Wednesday 5 January 2022

9C1	9C2	9C3	9C4	9C5	9H1	9H2	9H3	9H4	9H5
1130	1145	1200	1215	1230	1245	1300	1345	1400	1415

Thursday 6 January 2022

10C	10A	10M	10S	10H	10I	10L1	10L2
0830	0845	0900	0915	0930	0945	1000	1015

Miss Rachel Matthews
Deputy Headteacher