



CARLETON HIGH SCHOOL

11 January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

COVID-19 Testing for Children of Critical Workers and Vulnerable Students

Following my letter of 31 December, I am writing to update you on our approach to mass COVID-19 testing, which is to be started in secondary schools this week. You will be aware that in the short space of the last 7 days, we are now in a very different position to where we expected to be on the 4 January. Our initial plan was to test all students on their return to school, however, this is no longer the case due to the new national lockdown restrictions.

Despite this, we will begin the testing this week for our own staff and students that are in school, in addition to staff of our Trust primary schools. At this stage, this only applies to children of critical workers and vulnerable students that we have in school. Due to this, we are only writing to those families who have children in school at this stage. As I am sure you will appreciate, we have been working our way through the guidance to be in a position to start this process in a safe and controlled manner with externally validated Risk Assessments in place.

Students will be required to self-administer the tests. The 'lateral flow' tests are quick and easy, using a swab of the nose and throat and staff will be overseeing the swab process. Results will take approximately 30 minutes from testing and students and parents/carers will be informed if the result is positive.

The tests are voluntary and will not take place without your consent. To give consent, please follow this link: <https://carletonhigh.patrust.org.uk/covid-consent-form/>. Please read the information on this page and complete the online form by **5pm on Wednesday, 13 January**. We want parents and carers to have all the information they need to make an informed decision, therefore, please refer to the Mass Testing page on our website: <https://carletonhigh.patrust.org.uk/mass-testing/>

For any queries relating to COVID-19 testing, please visit the 'Contact Us' tab on the school website, using 'COVID-19 Testing' as the subject name.

Children of Critical Workers

We continue to provide on-site provision for children of critical workers. From next week (Monday, 18 January) we request that all critical worker parents inform us on a weekly basis if their child needs a school place. Following guidance, it is also important that we have evidence of the fact those parents are classed as critical workers. Please follow the link below and complete the form for your child/children, initially for the week commencing 18 January. **This needs to be done by 5pm on Thursday, 14 January and by 3pm every Friday thereafter for each week to ensure your child has a place for the following week.** You will receive a text to confirm that your child has a place.

<https://carletonhigh.patrust.org.uk/criticalworkers/>

Yours faithfully

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