



# All Saints

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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Head Teacher:  
Clare Cantle. BSc (Hons). MA(ed)

CCA/MH

16<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents,

As promised I am sending you further information from the Director of Public Health.

### Points to Note

- (1) All students in Yrs. 11,12 & 13 **MUST** get an asymptomatic covid test prior to returning to school on the 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021.
- (2) All other students in Yrs. 7 to 10 are encouraged to do this also.

### Updates

All staff are having a covid test on the 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2021 prior to returning to school as a measure to keep all in our community safe.

### Why are we doing this?

This is a directive from LBBDD to try and protect our community. You will agree with me that there has been enough disruption to our pupils schooling in the last year.

This is to try and do all we can to prevent schools closing and any further disruption to pupil's learning. We want our children particularly our exam years to get the chance to demonstrate the efforts of years of hard work in their exams. It is also to try and keep our whole community safe.

A huge thank you to our parents who wholeheartedly embraced the opportunity for covid testing in school this week. It was supposed to be just for Yrs. 11,12 & 13 but we had some extra tests available and we were able to offer out to some of our younger students. Your commitment to this and the safety of our community is to be congratulated – thank you.

As we break up for Christmas can I ask that if your child has a positive covid test between now and the 22<sup>nd</sup> December that you contact the school by email [office@allsaintsschool.co.uk](mailto:office@allsaintsschool.co.uk) (this mailbox will be checked daily at 10:00am until the 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2020 and then will not be monitored further over the Christmas period. We would like you to give us your child's name, form group, date of onset of symptoms and the date of positive test.

This will enable us to alert those that may have been in close proximity to the person testing positive.

I wish you and your family a safe, happy and Holy Christmas and I look forward to working with you all in 2021.

Yours sincerely,

Clare Cantle

Headteacher





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1 Town Square  
Barking, IG11 7LU  
Website: [www.lbbd.gov.uk](http://www.lbbd.gov.uk)

15 December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

## **Covid 19 testing for secondary school pupils who do not have symptoms (asymptomatic)**

I am writing to you as your local Director of Public Health to let you know about the increase in Covid-19 testing, with a focus on secondary school-aged children.

Due to the increasing number of Covid-19 cases locally, we have been given priority to begin a programme of asymptomatic testing (for people not experiencing any symptoms). These tests will help to reduce the risk of people without symptoms unknowingly spreading the virus to others in the community.

**To keep schools safe and protect the wider community, all students in years 11, 12 and 13 must get a test between Monday 28 and Thursday 31 December before they return to school.** Data has shown that rates amongst this age group are particularly high. Staff in schools are also required to get tested before the new term.

**We also strongly encourage students in other year groups and anyone they live with to get a Covid-19 test before students go back to school in January, to make sure that anyone who may be infectious does not return to school with the virus and potentially start an outbreak.**

### **How do I book a test if I don't have symptoms?**

Go to the government website [www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test](http://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test) where you'll be asked some questions. Select the following options:

- NO to essential worker
- NO to having symptoms
- NO to being part of a trial or pilot
- **YES - My local council or health protection team has asked me (or someone I live with) to get a test, even though I do not have symptoms**

You can book your whole family by choosing 'add family members'.



## I can't get to a testing centre, can we get tested at home?

Yes, you can ask to receive your test by post. When you are making your booking, answer 'Yes' to 'Is the person who needs a test part of a trial or government pilot project' and select the option that says 'The person is taking part in community testing'.

## What should I do if my child, or someone in our household, tests positive?

If you receive a positive test result, have symptoms of Covid-19, or if you've had contact with someone who has, self-isolation is the only way to guarantee you won't pass the virus on to others.

If you have to isolate, you should start the 10 day self-isolation period straight away.

## My child has tested positive recently, do they need to take another test?

If your child has tested positive in the last 90 days, they should not take another test as the dead virus may still show in their system, even if they have recovered.

## What if my family is already self-isolating?

If you've been asked to self-isolate by the NHS Test and Trace Programme or by our Public Health team you can still get tested by ordering a home testing kit. You still need to complete your period of self-isolation, even if you test negative as symptoms can take 10 days to show.

More information can be found on the government's [website](#).

Thank you for your support during these difficult times. Covid-19 is still taking people's lives but your efforts will help us stop the spread.

Yours faithfully,



Matthew Cole  
Director of Public Health