

20 May 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

We will be taking part in a new study called “Daily Contact Testing” which is being led by the Department for Health and Social Care through NHS Test and Trace.

Why is this study important?

Normally, when we identify a person who has COVID-19, the whole group of people that have been in close contact with that person have to go home and self-isolate for 10 days to stop the virus spreading. This can mean that many students are absent from school, but it is important to do this to protect the other people in school and at home.

As part of the study, we will continue current guidance and, in addition, provide two [Polymerase Chain Reaction](#) (PCR) tests whilst close contacts self-isolate at home after contact with a positive person. **We will continue to follow national guidelines and self-isolation guidance as normal for all students and staff.** The study will help in deciding how people in schools are tested in the future.

Is taking part voluntary?

Participation in the study is completely voluntary. If students do not wish to take part, they can choose not to or withdraw at any time.

What does the study involve?

When a positive case is identified in school, the school will be asked to tell the research team those individuals who are taking part in the study that had been in close contact.

Students and staff identified as a close contact who are taking part in the study will be asked to perform two COVID-19 tests at home whilst self-isolating:

A PCR test at home **on day 2 and day 7** – two home PCR testing kits for the study will be provided. These are similar to the tests performed at NHS Test and Trace sites. A swab is taken at home from the nose and throat. There will be instructions on how to return the swab. The swabs will be processed in a laboratory after two weeks. **Results of these tests will therefore not be available until after the self-isolation period.**

Students and staff will be asked to complete a brief survey on day 7 and may be invited to speak to a researcher.

Will you tell me my results?

The two COVID-19 tests sent whilst self-isolating will only be processed after two weeks. Results of these tests will therefore only be available after the self-isolation period.

What should a student do if they develop symptoms?

If students develop symptoms at any time during the study, they must immediately self-isolate and book a test at <https://www.gov.uk/get-COVID-19-test> or by calling 119. The school should be informed if the test result is positive.

If a student reports a positive test at any point during the study they will be provided an additional special home PCR test kit for the study.

Are household contacts or other people able to participate?

This study is **only** open to students and staff at schools who have been identified as a close contact of a student or staff member at school. If a student or staff member is a household contact, they are not able to participate.

What will you do with my information?

This is a summary of the School's Privacy Notice for Daily Contact Testing Trial that you will be provided a copy of:

We will collect personal information, including names, date of birth, contact details and names of contacts at school for you and the people you have been in contact with. This information, together with COVID-19 test results will be provided to the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) so they know when someone tests positive to help stop the spread of the virus. Information is also shared with DHSC to help assess how effective the trial is. DHSC are the 'controller' for this use of personal data – they decide how it will be used and are responsible for it. The school use this information to help us manage our COVID-19 response within the school – where we do this we are the controller of the personal data.

The use of personal data by the school and by DHSC is made lawful as it is being used for the protection of public health. We will keep all the information securely in accordance with the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UKGDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018.

If you would like to ask about how your personal data is used or if you have a complaint you can contact:

School: dpo@alperton.brent.sch.uk

Department of Health and Social Care: data_protection@dhsc.gov.uk



RENAISSANCE
Champion School

Also enclosed are 'DCT_Overview' & 'DCT_FAQ_Parents' pdf files for more information.

We hope you will be willing to participate in this trial; should you have any questions about the trial, please contact the school by email to dct_trial@alperton.brent.sch.uk

Yours sincerely,



Mr G McKenna
HEADTEACHER



RENAISSANCE
Champion School

DCT FAQs



Test and Trace

Why does my child have to do a test for 7 school days?

Antigen lateral flow device (LFD) rapid tests are more accurate the more virus that is present. We know that the levels of virus in a person can change from the day of exposure, normally peaking around the onset of symptoms. By testing on school days for 7 consecutive days we can detect the vast majority of cases. Students must isolate during weekends and holidays.

How is the schools/colleges clinical trial being monitored?

The trial is being co-ordinated and managed by Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), Department for Education (DfE) and Office of National Statistics and ethics cleared by PHE.

It will also be independently evaluated and overseen by an independent data monitoring committee and a trial steering group.

Should my child have an LFD if they previously tested positive?

Twice weekly testing is not needed for 90 days after testing positive. However even people who have recently tested positive need to self-isolate if they are a close contact of someone testing positive for coronavirus. Therefore you may opt to do DCT with LFDs rather than self isolate if your school/college is in the Intervention Group of the study. If you test positive in DCT, you will have to self-isolate for ten days.

How accurate are the LFD tests?

LFDs perform best when levels of virus are at their highest. This means they are particularly useful as a means of finding infections in individuals who do not experience and show any symptoms, but who could still be infectious and pass the virus to others. LFDs are highly sensitive and test positive in the majority of people with high amounts of virus present.

If I don't want my child to do DCT, what happens?

DCT is not mandatory. If you do not wish your child to do DCT or stop mid-way through, your child will revert to the legal duty to self-isolate for the original 10-day period.

What if my child has an invalid result?

If the test is invalid, the participant should have another LFD test.

What if my child does not test positive?

If your child's daily test is not positive, it is likely that they are not infectious, and may continue with schools/colleges that day while following the simple guidance of Hands, Face and Space. In the evenings and at the weekend however, they must follow the government guidelines and self-isolate at home.

What if my child tests positive?

If the test is positive, you should assume your child has the virus, self-isolate immediately, and follow government guidelines.

What is Daily Contact Testing (DCT)?

Daily Contact Testing (DCT) is the regular, daily testing of **close contacts** of individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19.

What is the benefit of taking part in this trial?

To keep students in face-to-face education for as much time as is possible.

To restrict self-isolation to a primary group of people (positive case) and reduce the impact of self-isolation to a secondary group of people (close contacts).

Why do LFD tests give 'false positives'?

LFDs give a very small number of false positive results out of every 1000 tests performed. LFDs are particularly useful as a means of finding infections in individuals who do not experience and show any symptoms, but who could still be infectious and pass the virus to others.

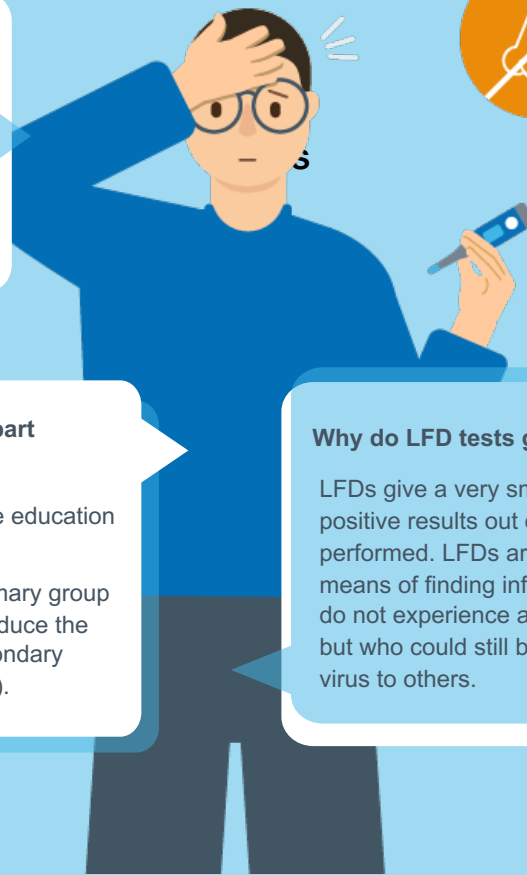
If my child is engaged in DCT, what can my household do?

They should continue about their day as per normal.

If your child tests positive or develops symptoms during the testing regimen, they should start self-isolating in line with government guidance.

How safe is DCT?

According to initial research, 7 days of DCT may prevent more additional transmission than quarantine if DCT is followed fully. DCT has potential advantages of tracking more contacts earlier, whether they have symptoms or not. DCT may also reduce the social and economic burden of quarantine on contacts. In school-type settings, mass testing and DCT are shown to be more effective at reducing infections than year-group isolation in initial studies. The purpose of DCT in schools/colleges is to confirm these early findings in a larger group.



PHASE 2 DAILY CONTACT TESTING IN SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES TRIAL

What is Daily Contact Testing (DCT)?

Daily Contact Testing is the regular, daily testing of close contacts of individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19.

The evidence from these pilots and evaluations will be used to inform any potential future rollout.

Is it safe for my school/college?

Yes. Around one in three people who have COVID-19 have no symptoms and could be spreading it without realising it.

By increasing the positive cases detected, Daily Contact Testing is potentially the best way to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 in the community.

The trial aims to answer this question, and the safety and progress of the trial is regularly reviewed by a panel of independent experts.

What is the benefit of taking part?

To keep students in face-to-face education for as much time as is possible.

To restrict self-isolation to a primary group of people (positive case) and reduce the impact of self-isolation to a secondary group of people (close contacts).

HOW IT WORKS

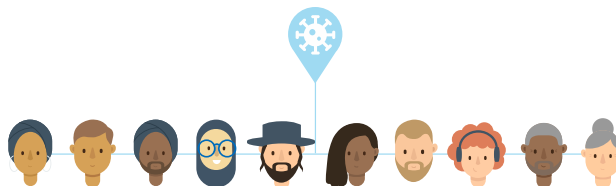


If your school/college has been randomly selected to Continue with self-isolation (Control Group)

- Individuals (close contacts) self-isolate at home for 10 days.
- In addition to this, they should do 2 x Research PCR tests (one on day 2 and one on day 7) which will be posted to and from the individual's house and the lab.
- PCR results are not available automatically but are available on request 2 weeks later.
- As a school/college, there is less impact to normal operations if assigned to this group as it is most like current mass testing nationwide.
- Funding to each randomly selected group will be equal.

If your school/college has been randomly selected to Trial Daily Contact Testing (Intervention Group)

- Rather than isolate for 10 days, the individuals return to school/college and have a rapid test every morning in school/college for 7 consecutive days. They can engage in all school/college activities only after a negative result is returned but must self-isolate in the evenings and weekends until the daily testing is finished.
- The Orient Gene LFD (Lateral Flow Device) test takes approximately 15 minutes to produce a result.
- In addition to this, they should do 2 x Research PCR tests (one on day 2 and one on day 7).
- PCR results are not available automatically but are available on request 2 weeks later.



DAILY CONTACT TESTING STUDY CONTROL GROUP CONSENT FORM

Introduction

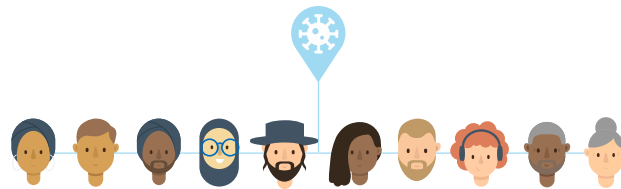
This consent form is for participation in the COVID-19 Daily Contact Testing study being led by the Department for Health and Social Care through NHS Test and Trace. Please read this consent form with the Letter dated 20/05/2021, and the DCT_Overview & DCT_FAQ_Parents.

Taking part in the study and testing is your choice. You will need to give consent if you wish to take part.

Consent relates to the following groups of students/pupils and staff as follows:

- **For pupils and students younger than 16 years** - this form must be completed by the parent or legal guardian. Please complete one consent form for each child taking part.
- **Pupils and students aged 16 and over who are able to provide consent on their own behalf** can complete this form themselves, having discussed participation with their parent/ guardian.
- **For any pupil or student who does not have the competence or capacity to provide informed consent** - this form must be completed by the parent or legal guardian. Please complete one consent form for each child taking part.
- **Staff** will complete this form themselves.

Consent can be withdrawn at any time. In the case of children under 16, you confirm by signing below that you have discussed the testing with your child and your child is happy to participate. Participants who do not wish to take part will not be made to do so.



Please read the following statements and sign below if you agree to all of them and want to take part in the study. If you do not agree to any statement you/ your child will not be able to take part in the study.

Terms of Consent

By signing this study consent form I acknowledge:

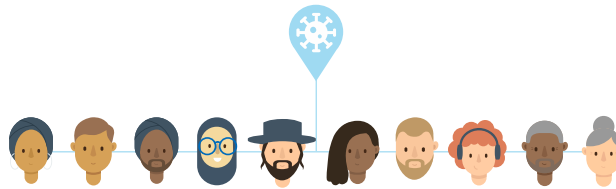
1. I have read and understand the Information Sheet. I have had the opportunity to consider the information, ask questions and have had these answered satisfactorily.
2. I have received and read a copy of the Privacy Notice that explains how personal data is collected and used for the study.

By signing this study consent form I understand that:

3. If I am/ my child is a close contact of someone who has tested positive, then I/ my child will be required to self-isolate at home as per current national guidance.
4. I/my child will be required to provide a swab sample at home for a PCR test on day 2 and 7 of self-isolation and complete a brief survey.
5. All PCR tests are only processed after 2 weeks. Results of the PCR tests will not be available until after the self-isolation period.
6. I/ my child may be invited to speak to a researcher about daily testing and that participation is completely voluntary.

By signing this study consent form I am providing consent for:

7. My having/ my child having a nose and throat swab for PCR test at home.
8. My/ my child's sample(s) being tested for presence of COVID-19.



First Name (Student/ Staff member)	
Last Name (Student/ Staff member)	
Year group (if applicable)	
Name of parent/guardian giving consent (if applicable)	
Relationship to participant (if applicable)	
Signature	
Today's date	

Alperton Community School– COVID-19 Daily Contact Testing (DCT) Trial Privacy Notice – Control Arm.

Ownership of the Personal Data

To enable Covid-19 testing to be completed at **Alperton Community School**, we Need to collect personal data for staff and pupils, and to share personal data where we have a legal obligation. **Alperton Community School** is the controller (organisation who decides how personal data is used) for processing tests at school and to take actions to meet our public health and safeguarding obligations.

We are required by law to explain the ‘lawful basis’ for the use of your personal data (information about you). Use of data relating to tests for pupils is processed under article 6 (1) (e) of the UK GDPR (public task). This is based on the school proprietor’s official authority for the conduct of the school. [Section 175 of the Education Act 2002 and paragraph 3 of Schedule 1 to the Education Act 2002 for maintained schools **OR** paragraph 7 of the Schedule to the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 for independent schools including Academy Schools and Alternative Provision Academies **OR** requirements pertaining to policies on health and welfare for 16-19 Academies; **OR** paragraphs 3 and 14 of the Schedule to the Non-Maintained Special Schools (England) Regulations 2015 applicable to Non-Maintained Special Schools **OR** section 19(2) – (4) and 33F(2)-(6) of the Further and Higher Education Act 1992 for Further Education Corporations and Sixth Form College Corporations] is/are also relevant.

Personal Data relating to staff is processed under article 6 (1) (f) of the UK GDPR (the legitimate interest of the data controller) to ensure we can minimise the spread of COVID in a timely manner and enable us to continue to deliver education services safely and securely.

If you decline a test, we record your decision under the legitimate interest of school in order to have a record of your decisions and to reduce unnecessary contact with you regarding testing, and we also share this information with the Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC) and the Office for National Statistics (ONS), for the purposes of evaluating the Trial.

The processing of special category personal data is processed under the provisions Section 9.2(i) of UK GDPR, where it is in the public interest on public health grounds. This data is processed under the obligations set out in Public Health legislation (Regulations 3(1) and (4) of the Health Service (Control of Patient Information) Regulations 2002 (COPI)) which allows the sharing of data for COVID related purposes and where it is carried out by [a health care professional **OR** someone who owes an equivalent duty of confidentiality to that data]

DHSC is the data controller for data that we transfer to them about you and in relation to your test results. DHSC has asked us to collect that data for them, and so DHSC is the controller for it and the School is a ‘processor’ acting under their instructions. For

more information about what DHSC do with your data please see the information below and their Test and Trace Privacy Notice.

Personal Data involved in the process

We use the following information to help us manage testing at the School:

- Name
- Date of birth (and year group)
- Gender
- Ethnicity
- Home postcode
- Email address
- Mobile number
- Unique barcode assigned to each individual test and which will become the primary reference number for the tests
- Parent/guardians contact details (if required)

We will only use information that is collected directly from you specifically for the purpose of the tests, even if you have previously provided us with this information.

Data sharing with the DHSC

The above information will be sent to DHSC (with the DHSC as a controller) for their research and evaluation purposes. We also send the name, date of birth, gender, ethnicity, address, email address, mobile number, and barcodes of PCR tests taken for the in-school contacts of each person taking part in the trial. As the school collects this data on behalf of the DHSC, we are a processor of this information for this purpose.

The school will provide DHSC with confirmatory PCR test results, school attendance registers (name, email address and date of birth) and the School's Covid-19 test registers. For this information both the School and DHSC are controllers of the information.

DHSC will, without School involvement, analyse information provided and compare it against information held on Test and Trace systems. This allows them to review the transmission of Covid-19 and to assess effectiveness of Daily Contact Testing.

How we store your personal information

The information will only be stored securely by the school/college for a minimum of 14 days and up to a maximum of one month after the end of testing. Schools/colleges will not have access to the information held on the digital service once submitted.

The information collected for DHSC's research and evaluation purposes will be transferred securely to DHSC using a secure file transfer and storage system and will be retained for up to 8 years. ONS may use anonymised data for their research purposes.

Processing of Personal Data relating to declining a test

We will record that you have declined to participate in a test. This will only be shared with DHSC for their research and evaluation purposes.

Processing of personal data relating to PCR tests

On days 2 and 7 of the Trial, you will take a PCR test. These PCR tests are for research and evaluation purposes only and the tests may not be processed immediately. The results of this testing will be linked with the information sent by your school. The results of the PCR tests can be provided to you if requested. You would receive results through either the school or a member of the research and evaluation team, when they are available.

Data Sharing Partners

The personal data associated with test results will be shared with

- DHSC, NHS, Public Health England – to ensure that they can undertake the necessary Test and Trace activities and to conduct research and compile statistics about Coronavirus.
- Your GP – to maintain your medical records and to offer support and guidance as necessary.
- Local Government to undertake local public health duties and to record and analyse local spreads.
- Egress – a secure online file transfer system to facilitate the transfer of research and evaluation data collected by the school to DHSC.
- Office for National Statistics (ONS) – to assist in the data collection and analysis on behalf of DHSC.
- IQVIA – to assist ONS in the data collection. IQVIA is a subcontractor of ONS for the purpose of this trial.

Your Rights

Under data protection law, you have rights including:

Your right of access - You have the right to ask us for copies of your personal information.

Your right to rectification - You have the right to ask us to rectify personal information you think is inaccurate. You also have the right to ask us to complete information you think is incomplete.

Your right to erasure - You have the right to ask us to erase your personal information in certain circumstances.

Your right to restriction of processing - You have the right to ask us to restrict the processing of your personal information in certain circumstances.

Your right to object to processing - You have the right to object to the processing of your personal information in certain circumstances.

Your right to data portability - You have the right to ask that we transfer the personal information you gave us to another organisation, or to you, in certain circumstances.

You are not required to pay any charge for exercising your rights. If you make a request, we have one month to respond to you.

Please contact us at dpo@alperton.brent.sch.uk if you wish to make a request.

Should you wish to make a rights request to DHSC, you can email them at data_protection@dhsc.gov.uk

How to complain

If you have any concerns about our use of your personal information, you can make a complaint to us at [Insert your organisation's contact details for data protection queries].

You can also complain to the ICO if you are unhappy with how we have used your data.

The ICO's address:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Helpline number: 0303 123 1113