



St Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic High School

Prepare the way of the Lord

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16 July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Summer and Autumn Covid-19 Testing Arrangements

Thank you for your continued engagement in the Covid-19 testing programme. **Please continue to encourage your child to test twice weekly and report the results until the end of the summer term.**

The asymptomatic testing programme is being paused for students in secondary schools that will be closed over the summer holidays.

If you or your child wish to access rapid lateral flow testing kits over the summer, you can continue to do so by ordering LFD test kits from <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests> or by collecting kits from your local pharmacy.

We are unsure about the Covid situation that we will face in the Autumn, so we want to be prepared for all scenarios. Subject to public health advice, testing may re-start on their return to school in the Autumn term. If it does, we expect to offer your child **two** tests on-site before continuing regular testing at home until at least the end of September.

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.

YEAR GROUP	TEST 1: First day of School	TEST 2: 3 - 5 days
YEAR 7	02 September 2021	06 September 2021
YEAR 11	03 September 2021	07 September 2021
YEAR 10	03 September 2021	08 September 2021
YEAR 9	06 September 2021	09 September 2021
YEAR 8	07 September 2021	10 September 2021

If you consented for your child to participate in the testing programme in March 2021, you **DO NOT** need to complete a new consent form.

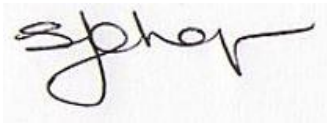
All new Y7 pupils and anyone wanting to participate in the testing who didn't do so in March, will need to complete a consent form. This will be available on the school website during the Summer holidays. Participation is **not** compulsory, however it is highly recommended. If there is no consent in place by 1 September 2021, your child will be unable to be tested on their first day in school.

You must report your child's test results, even if their result is negative or void. If the test is **POSITIVE** you should isolate, arrange a confirmation PCR test immediately and notify school straight away.

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.

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.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S J Chapman', written on a light-colored background.

S J CHAPMAN
School Business Manager