

Ernest Bevin College and Sixth Form Centre



A Specialist Sports, Mathematics & Computing College

Beechcroft Road, Tooting, London, SW17 7DF

Tel: 020 8672 8582 Fax: 020 8767 5502

e-mail: mail@ernestbevin.london web: ernestbevin.london

Principal: Tracy Dohel

23rd February 2021

Reopening: Test and Trace

Dear Parent/Carer,

You will be aware that schools are scheduled to reopen to all students from 8th March 2021. The offer of regular asymptomatic testing is part of the reopening plan. This letter explains what this looks like at Ernest Bevin and allows you to consent to your child being tested. We need you to respond by Thursday 25th February to allow us time to plan the testing programme. If you have already consented then no further action is required.

Details on reopening and the first day back will be sent in a separate communication.

We are continuing to work to keep Ernest Bevin College as safe and COVID-secure as possible. You may have heard that testing for those without coronavirus symptoms is established across the country using new, quicker COVID-19 tests known as 'lateral flow tests'.

Secondary-age students are being prioritised for this testing and along with the other protective measures we are taking, these tests will help staff and students to remain in college safely. Up to one third of people who have coronavirus experience no symptoms. By testing we will help to stop the virus spread and help to keep Ernest Bevin open as safely as possible. We are strongly encouraging everyone to engage in the programme.

The testing programme is envisaged as follows:

1. Testing will be offered free of charge.
2. Parental consent obtained for COVID-19 testing for all students under the age of 16, students over the age of 16 and staff should complete their own consent form.
3. Students who are self-testing will do so twice 3-5 days apart. Students will have an initial programme of 3 tests in college and will then be provided with two rapid tests to use each week at home.
4. Staff will self-test twice per week.
5. Anyone who tests positive will need to be collected from/leave college, self-isolate and arrange a PCR test. The results of this test should be shared with the college.
6. Students and staff members are able to attend school even if they choose not to participate in the testing programme. The only exception to this is for those identified as a close contact of a confirmed case. Close contacts must self-isolate in accordance with government guidance.

The 'lateral flow' tests are quick and easy using a self-swab of your own nose and throat. Students undertaking the swab process will be overseen on the college site by trained college staff and/or volunteers. Results (which take around half an hour from testing) will be shared directly with

Ernest Bevin College and Sixth Form Centre



A Specialist Sports, Mathematics & Computing College

Beechcroft Road, Tooting, London, SW17 7DF

Tel: 020 8672 8582 Fax: 020 8767 5502

e-mail: mail@ernestbevin.london web: ernestbevin.london

Principal: Tracy Dohel

students and staff participating. Where participants are under 16, parents or legal guardians will also be informed.

We know these tests work - in validation studies conducted by Oxford University and Public Health England, they were shown to be as accurate in identifying a case as a PCR test (99.68% specificity). The tests have lower sensitivity, but they are better at picking up cases when a person has higher viral load, hence the need to test frequently. We enclose an instructional leaflet with some more information on the tests.

Registration on NHS and DFE Track and Trace.

Following their first test students will be given a card with a QR code and a bar code. This registration process should then be completed at home, with appropriate supervision and support from their family. We are not registering the details of students or staff who are tested with any external bodies, we simply register the test result blind, once the student or staff member registers themselves the test result is linked to them.

Consent Forms

To enable us to move ahead quickly, we are asking that you provide consent for COVID-19 testing for your children in all year groups as soon as possible. We have included a privacy notice. If you are happy for your child(ren) to be tested, please complete the form at the end of this letter (one per student). If your child is 16 or over, they can complete their own consent form. Whilst the electronic consent is preferred, you could alternatively print, complete and return the registration and consent form included with this communication to the main office, marked clearly 'COVID Testing Consent'.

Finally, please bear in mind how quickly the national situation is changing and be prepared for further changes to our current plans for these tests.

Thank you for your patience, once we have the information regarding consent we will confirm the details of our reopening plans. It is likely that the structure of the college day and the adjustments to the way we operate to reduce the risk of transmission will be similar to the autumn term. However students will be required to wear masks at all times whilst indoors.

We look forward to welcoming our students back to the college. In the meantime we encourage them to continue with their remote learning

Yours,

Ms T Dohel, Principal

Ernest Bevin College and Sixth Form Centre

A Specialist Sports, Mathematics & Computing College

Beechcroft Road, Tooting, London, SW17 7DF

Tel: 020 8672 8582 Fax: 020 8767 5502

e-mail: mail@ernestbevin.london web: ernestbevin.london



Principal: Tracy Dohel

NHS
Test and Trace

HOW TO DO YOUR TEST

WHILE THIS IS A SELF-SWAB TEST, THERE WILL BE A TESTING HELPER WHO WILL OVERSEE THINGS AND PROVIDE HELP IF YOU NEED

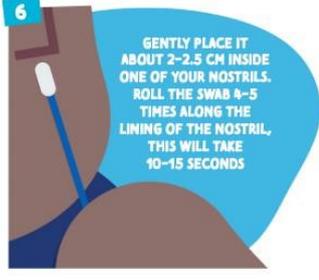
- 

YOUR COVID-19 TEST WILL BE SCHEDULED. IF YOU ARE UNDER 16, YOUR PARENT / CARER WILL HAVE CONSENTED
- 

YOUR TEST WILL BE FAST AND WHILE IT MIGHT FEEL A LITTLE UNCOMFORTABLE, IT WON'T HURT YOU
- 

BLOW YOUR NOSE IF NEEDED, WASH AND DRY/SANITISE YOUR HANDS. REMOVE THE SWAB BEING CAREFUL NOT TO TOUCH THE SOFT PART
- 

10 SECS
OPEN YOUR MOUTH WIDE AND USE A MIRROR TO LOOK AT THE BACK OF YOUR THROAT, THEN USE THE SWAB TO RUB FIRMLY 4 TIMES ON EACH SIDE
- 

REMOVE THE SWAB CAREFULLY WITHOUT TOUCHING YOUR TEETH, TONGUE OR GUMS
- 

GENTLY PLACE IT ABOUT 2-2.5 CM INSIDE ONE OF YOUR NOSTRILS. ROLL THE SWAB 4-5 TIMES ALONG THE LINING OF THE NOSTRIL, THIS WILL TAKE 10-15 SECONDS
- 

YOUR SWAB CAN THEN BE PLACED IN A TUBE FOR TESTING, THIS TAKES ABOUT 30 MINUTES
- 

AFTER THIS, YOU'RE DONE, GENTLY REMOVE THE SWAB BEING CAREFUL NOT TO LET ANYTHING TOUCH THE TIP

YOUR SCHOOL / COLLEGE WILL CONTACT YOU OR YOUR PARENT / CARER WITH THE RESULTS AND LET YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

What if a student tests positive?

Participating staff and students who test positive will be informed about their results individually. Where participants are under 16, parents or legal guardians will also be notified. Anyone who tests positive must self-isolate, along with their household and close contacts, according to government guidance

What happens if the test is negative?

They will be able to stay in College and resume their activities as normal. A student will only be told if they test positive on a 'lateral flow' test, so if you do not hear you can assume it was negative. A small number of students may need to repeat the test if the first test was invalid or void for some reason.

What if my child develops symptoms?

This testing programme at College is for people with no symptoms. If your child develops symptoms at any time (such as 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 test by calling 119 or visiting <https://www.gov.uk/getcoronavirus-test>.

Ernest Bevin College and Sixth Form Centre



A Specialist Sports, Mathematics & Computing College

Beechcroft Road, Tooting, London, SW17 7DF

Tel: 020 8672 8582 Fax: 020 8767 5502

e-mail: mail@ernestbevin.london web: ernestbevin.london

Principal: Tracy Dohel

Consent form for COVID-19 testing in secondary schools and colleges

Introduction

This consent form is for participation in tests designed to detect asymptomatic coronavirus cases. Anyone experiencing symptoms should follow [government guidelines to self-isolate](#), even if they have had a recent negative lateral flow test.

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 you wish to participate in testing.
- **Pupils and students over 16 who are able to provide informed consent** - can complete this form themselves, having discussed participation with their parent / guardian if under 18.
- **For any pupil or student who does not have the capacity to provide informed consent** - this form must be completed by the parent or legal guardian. Please complete one consent form for each child you wish to participate in testing.
- **Staff** will complete this form themselves.

Terms of consent

1. I have had the opportunity to consider the information provided by the College about the testing, ask questions and have had these answered satisfactorily, based on the information presented in the letter dated [23/02/2021] and the attached Privacy Notice.
2. In the case of under 16s, I have discussed the testing with my child and my child is happy to participate. If on the day of testing they do not wish to take part, then they will not be made to do so and consent can be withdrawn at any time ahead of the test.
3. I consent to having / my child having a nose and throat swab for lateral flow tests. I / my child will self-swab if I / my child is able to otherwise I understand that assistance is available. In the case of under 16s or pupils who are not able to provide informed consent, I have discussed the testing with my child and they are happy to participate and self-swab (with assistance if required).
4. I understand that there may be multiple tests required and this consent covers all tests for the below named person. If, on the day of testing I / they do not wish to take part, then I understand I / they will not be made to do so and that consent can be withdrawn at any time ahead of the test.
5. I consent that my / my child's sample(s) will be tested for the presence of COVID-19.

Ernest Bevin College and Sixth Form Centre



A Specialist Sports, Mathematics & Computing College

Beechcroft Road, Tooting, London, SW17 7DF

Tel: 020 8672 8582 Fax: 020 8767 5502

e-mail: mail@ernestbevin.london web: ernestbevin.london

Principal: Tracy Dohel

6. I understand that if my / my child's result(s) are negative on the lateral flow test I will not be contacted by the College except where I am / they are a close contact of a confirmed positive.
7. If the lateral flow test indicates the presence of COVID-19, I consent to having / my child having a nose and throat swab for confirmatory PCR testing. I/they will follow the instructions on the PCR Kit to return the test the same day to an NHS Test & Trace laboratory.
8. If the lateral flow test indicates the presence of COVID-19, I commit to ensuring that I / my child is removed from College premises as promptly as possible, bearing in mind I / they may have some anxiety following a positive test result.
9. I consent that I / they will need to self-isolate following a positive lateral flow test result, until the results of the confirmatory PCR have been received.
10. I agree that if my / my child's test results are confirmed to be positive from this PCR test, I will report this to the College advice.
11. I consent that if a close contact of my child tests positive but I / my child has tested negative, I / they will continue to attend College but will be tested every day at College / college for 7 days.

Consent form for COVID-19 testing at Ernest Bevin College

First Name	
Last Name	
Year group	
Relationship to test subject	
Signature (typing out your name is sufficient if you are filling in this form digitally)	
Today's date	
Details of any health or accessibility issues which might affect a child's safe participation in the testing exercise.	