

24 February 2021

Dear Parent / Carer,

### Consent for COVID -19 Testing

Following the announcement that all students will be returning to school from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March, we are very much looking forward to welcoming all our students back onto the site. We will be writing to you very shortly with detail regarding the arrangements for the return to school and this will be worked with the guidance regarding testing all our students, three times in the first two weeks of school return.

I thank those parents who completed the consent forms when they were first put out to you all in early January. If you haven't yet done so I urge you to please **complete the consent forms quickly** in order that we can be sure they are all in order prior to the students' return; we want the testing to be smooth and efficient and to have as little impact on the learning of the student's as possible.

Please use this link to complete the electronic consent form.

- **COVID consent form:**

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=bw9Pm5mNe0y9yk7jVmV6DRgn\\_c5xmp5ChQXxjoxCBu9UNURTUEg2NIRIOFI3MzM2OE5ON1haSzNNNS4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=bw9Pm5mNe0y9yk7jVmV6DRgn_c5xmp5ChQXxjoxCBu9UNURTUEg2NIRIOFI3MzM2OE5ON1haSzNNNS4u)

Completed forms can be scanned/photographed and emailed back to school:  
[reception@conisboroughcollege.co.uk](mailto:reception@conisboroughcollege.co.uk).

I'm pleased to report that all staff and students who have been on site since the start of January, at least 100 in total each day, have been being tested at least weekly. We have developed a swift and efficient testing system which has been very well tested. As we set out in January, all our testing staff are known to the students and have been fully trained.

As a reminder I have included the **Frequently Asked Questions**, which have been assembled by the NHS and were included in the last testing letter in January.

#### **What if my child tests positive?**

If a student tests positive on a lateral flow device, they will need to take a further 'PCR test' to confirm the result. This should be on the same day or as soon as possible afterwards. Conisborough College will provide you with the PCR test kits to perform at home.

During the time while waiting for the PCR result by text/email they will need to self-isolate.

If the PCR test returns a positive result they will have to continue to self-isolate and follow the guidance from NHS Test and Trace.

#### **What happens if the test is negative?**

While a small number of students may need to repeat the test if the first test was invalid or void for some reason, students who test negative will be able to stay in school and resume their activities as

normal. Students will be informed of negative test results via text/email. Where participants are under 16, parents or legal guardians will also be informed.

**What if staff or students have been in close contact with someone in at school who tests positive?**

The student (and parent) will be notified that they are a close contact, by the school. There may be instances where close contacts are also contacted by NHS Test and Trace.

**What if my child develops symptoms?**

This **testing programme** at school is for people with **no symptoms**. If your child develops symptoms at any time (including 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/get-coronavirus-test>.

We will support our staff and students throughout, but please contact us if you have any questions. You can contact the office by emailing [reception@conisboroughcollege.co.uk](mailto:reception@conisboroughcollege.co.uk).

Yours faithfully,

*R Fossett*

**Ms R Fossett**  
**Lateral Flow Testing Team Leader**  
**Assistant Headteacher: Behaviour and Safeguarding**