

Dear Parent,

As you may know from the media, the Scottish Government is now working with local authorities to extend the Covid-19 testing programme to pupils in S1 to S3 following the Easter break. The aim of the programme is to identify asymptomatic individuals in school environments at the earliest possible opportunity. Testing is encouraged, but is not compulsory.

This [letter for parents](#) and [fact sheet](#) provided by NHS Test & Protect outline the testing programme in more detail, and these [frequently asked questions](#) contain some useful additional information. (Please note that these NHS Test & Protect documents refer to senior phase pupils in S4-6 and have not yet been updated to take account of the extension of the programme to our S1-3 children).

Please note in particular the following points:

- Participating pupils will be provided with three boxes, each containing three individual tests. This provides a total of 9 individual tests which will last approximately four and a half weeks.
- The kits are for home testing and tests should be undertaken twice per week at regular intervals (ideally in the morning before attendance at school).
- Testing is **voluntary** and no one will be required to complete a test if they do not wish to do so, nor will pupils be prevented from attending school if they choose not to access testing through this scheme.
- Participants' test information is provided directly to NHS Test & Protect through the return portal.
- Testing should not be undertaken by anyone who has tested positive for Covid-19 with a PCR test in the past 90 days.

Both you and your child should read the [privacy notice](#) provided by NHS Test & Protect, and the [consent form](#) that requires to be completed for each participating pupil. If you are happy for your child to participate in this scheme, you can submit your consent electronically by following this link: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=oyzTzM4Wj0KVQTctawUZKayf8QisLSFHnHNJzl-gCRhUMDA5UVRHREU2RzBKOEMwTzQ5Nk9JUEIRri4u>

Please note that testing kits cannot be issued unless a consent form has been received.

Office staff will distribute tests to pupils for whom a consent form has been received on Tuesday 30th March (for pupils in S1 and S2) and Wednesday 31st March (for pupils in S3). Please remember, however, that tests should not be carried out during the Easter break, but rather immediately prior to our return on Monday 19th April.

If you require any further information or advice, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Best wishes
Willie Inglis