



ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE



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is our way forward!

La Salle 2021-22

Tuesday 14th September 2021

COVID-19 Update

As you are aware, we have been conducting Covid testing in school last week and the vast majority, over 90% of students, have participated in the testing. We are very grateful for your cooperation and readiness to work with us for the safety of our whole school community. If you wish for your son/daughter to join the home testing process, please register on this link - [Home Testing Participation Form](#). Whilst testing remains voluntary, we are strongly encouraging all of our staff and students to engage with the programme by testing themselves twice weekly at home using the LFD tests. The more people who participate, the safer our community will be, as testing detects early cases and therefore reduces both transmission as well as any resulting absence. The testing that took place at the start of term identified two cases and this swift identification and isolation of these positive students has reduced transmission within our school community.

When should my child take the tests?

Tests should be conducted at home, twice a week. The best time to conduct the tests is first thing in the morning just after you have woken up, before you eat or drink anything. If this is not possible as there is not enough time before leaving to come to school, they should be done just before bed the night before. Tests should be conducted before school on a Monday and a Thursday each week (or on a Sunday and Wednesday night).

How does the testing process work?

The new LFDs supplied do not require laboratory processing and can provide a quick result in around 15 minutes and only require a nasal swab. Comprehensive guidance on self-testing is contained in the 'Instructions for Use' leaflet within each test box.

Children aged 12 years and older are able to do the tests themselves; however, we would strongly recommend that they are done under an adult's supervision, at least for the first few tests taken.

What happens once I have the results?

Once the test has been conducted you are legally obliged to log the test results (whether positive or negative) online <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result> or via phone (dial 119) to the government. You will receive a text/email confirmation of the results from NHS Test & Trace once you have reported them. We also ask that you report this to the school by logging it on this form [Student Home LFD Test Result](#).

What happens if the result of the LFD test is positive?

A positive result on a LFD test indicates that there is a very high chance that you have COVID-19 and that you are in the contagious stages. If you receive a positive result on a home-test, only the person who tested positive must self-isolate and they should [book a PCR \(lab based\) COVID-19 test](#) to confirm the results. If the PCR test comes back negative, then the period of self-isolation can end. If the PCR test comes back positive it confirms that the person has COVID-19 and they will need to

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continue with the 10 days of self-isolation, and it is no longer necessary for the whole household to isolate. The school will no longer carry out track & trace as this has now been delegated to the NHS. If the NHS has identified your child as a close contact, they will no longer need to self-isolate but should take a PCR test as soon as possible.

Please encourage your child to maintain good hygiene through frequent handwashing, using the hand sanitisers across the school and respecting the 'Catch it- Bin it- Kill it' advice. Your son is also welcome to wear a face mask in communal areas and corridors. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please email covid@sjc.ac.



Yours faithfully

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