



## CHAMBERLAYNE COLLEGE FOR THE ARTS

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Date 7<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Ref 029 2021

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to share the news that Chamberlayne College for the Arts is taking part in an exciting new Hampshire and Isle of Wight COVID-19 Testing Programme this term.

This new test is very simple and involves collecting a sample of saliva in a plastic pot. The test used is the one featured in a [BBC News piece in July](#). Free tests will be offered to **all pupils**, **all staff** and **all contractors** working regularly at the school.

### **Why is this important?**

Knowing who has COVID-19 is vital to stopping its spread.

We hope that you are as excited as we are about the potential for this test to help us manage the risk of COVID-19. Alongside all the other measures we are taking to control the virus, it could help us to keep our communities safe and well and keep our schools open. We will also be paving the way for this test to be used to help in the recovery from COVID-19 across the country.

Testing is not compulsory, but I strongly encourage you take part.

### **How will the testing work?**

Testing for staff who will be regularly onsite during the lockdown period will start in the week commencing 18<sup>th</sup> January 2021 and for all staff in the week commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021 (subject to further clarification from Government in regard to the lockdown period).

Further details about testing day will be shared with you shortly – please look out for further information from me.

You will be provided with your labels and test packs, with enough test pots for eight weeks of testing, as well as an instruction leaflet of how to take your saliva test. You will then need to conduct a test at home and bring your sample in to the school on the allocated testing day where you can deposit it in the box in reception. The tests will be collected and taken to the test centre on the same day. Test results will be returned in the next 24-48 hours and you will receive a text message telling you the result of your test.

If you receive a positive test result, you and everyone in your household must start isolating immediately and you should follow the COVID-19 guidance issued by the school. The programme team will contact you and ensure you get the help and advice you need. Please note that this test is for screening people who do not have symptoms of COVID-19. If you do have COVID-19 symptoms you should not attend school and you should order a test through 111.nhs.uk or by calling 119.





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If you forget to bring in your test, you should bring a test sample in for the next scheduled testing day. We will have some spare packs to hand out to anyone who loses their sample pots but we would encourage you to keep them somewhere safe as spares are limited.

### **Important information about your data**

To enable the partnership running the COVID-19 Testing Programme between University Hospital Southampton, local government, and the University of Southampton to deploy the test kits to the school and to manage the collection of samples from schools, our school will be sharing contact details of pupils and their parents or guardians, as well as staff, with University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust.

As you know from our school's Privacy Notice <https://www.chamberlayne.org/copy-of-home> we are very serious about protecting the personal data of all members of our school community, and we will maintain this approach in relation to this data sharing. We will only be sharing limited contact details. The NHS will share confidentially with nominated senior leadership within the School positive test results to enable immediate initiation of contact tracing to minimise the risk of the virus spreading.

The Privacy Notice for this COVID-19 Testing Programme has been included with this letter. Please do take the time to read this. If you have any questions or would like to exercise your right to object to this data sharing, please call the contact centre on the number below.

You should find answers to any questions on the testing programme on [www.southampton.gov.uk/covid19testing](http://www.southampton.gov.uk/covid19testing) where there is also a web chat service. Alternatively, you can call the contact centre on **0808 196 2282** (lines are open Monday to Sunday 8.30am to 5.00pm).

While this testing is not compulsory, I would urge all of you to take part. Knowing who has COVID-19 is vital to stopping its spread, and regular testing will help us keep our community safe and keep our school open.

Yours sincerely

Mr N S Giles  
Headteacher

