

Hampshire and Isle of Wight

COVID-19 Saliva Testing Programme



As a student in this school, your child has been offered the option of taking part in the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Saliva Testing Programme, as part of asymptomatic testing for COVID-19. We have been informed by the programme that the number of tests that can be undertaken over the next three weeks until the Easter holidays has been reduced.

As the programme cannot offer testing to all our students, we have taken the decision not to continue saliva testing until after Easter. For the next four weeks, your child will not be taking part in saliva testing, but they will continue to be offered testing using lateral flow devices. The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Saliva Testing Programme aims to offer testing to all students in the school at the beginning of the summer term, when your child will be able to take part.

FAQs

Why is my/my child's sample not going to be processed?

All samples collected between 9th and 12th March will be disposed of safely. The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Testing Programme is unable to process these samples due to minor issues that have arisen at the laboratory, which must be remedied before any further samples can be undertaken. We have been assured that this will be resolved as soon as possible. We will provide alternative testing provision during this time.

Why can't my child participate in saliva testing when other children/staff can?

The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Testing Programme is unable to offer organisation-wide saliva testing while minor issues are being remedied at the laboratory. In the interim, each participating organisation, including our school, is being offered continued saliva testing on a more limited scale, for a percentage of staff/students. We have worked hard to allocate saliva tests according to staff/student needs. We hope to resume full saliva testing capacity following the Easter holidays and await an update from the programme.