

Department for Education Data Protection Frequently Asked Question for Parents – COVID testing in Educational Establishments.

How can you use my child's data?

Taking part in the test is voluntary. If you want your child to be tested, you need to understand that as part of testing we process their personal data. This use of their data is allowed under data protection legislation, known as UKGDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018.

The school can use education legislation to safeguard and promote the wellbeing of pupils for processing personal data for COVID testing.

There is also legislation which allows us to share information with the Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC).

Public Health legislation allows the sharing of personal data with DHSC, Local Government, Test and Trace and the NHS.

You can find details of the specific legislation in the privacy notice

What Personal Data will you be asking for?

When you register for a test you need to provide the school with your child's

- Name
- Date of birth
- Gender
- Home postcode
- Email address
- Mobile number
- Name of Parent or Guardian

This allows us to register your child for a test and to process the results. Once your child is registered for a test they will be assigned a unique barcode which will be used to identify the test without the need for sharing a lot of personal data.

Once the test has been completed, we will also record the results

What Personal Data is used in getting test results?

Public Health England (PHE) will use the personal data you provided when you register your child for the test to send the result to the named parents/guardians of children who test positive for coronavirus. You will also be contacted by email, text or phone by the NHS Test and Trace service to provide support.

The named parents/guardians of children who test negative for coronavirus will also be notified.

Who are results shared with?

In the event of a positive result, in addition to sharing with the parent/guardian PHE will only share the result with appropriate contacts such as the Headteacher and named nominated person in the school to allow the school to start their own COVID isolation processes. **The school will not tell any unauthorised person who has received a positive result. Schools will not share positive results with other parents or pupils.**

All results both positive and negative are shared by PHE with the Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC).

DHSC will share results with the NHS to offer advice and support. Results will also be sent to your GP so they can support you. Results will be used for management including contact tracing.

Will my child's personal data be used for research and statistical purposes?

Yes. Data used for research and statistical purposes by DHSC/NHS will not use personal data that identify your child. Aggregate level data that won't identify individuals will be used. This is lawful under UK data protection legislation

How will my child's data be used?

Your child's details will be used to complete testing. As part of testing details of pupils and their parents or guardians, as well as staff, may be used for:

- registering your child and recording their participation in the testing
- match your child's contact details with health data stored by the NHS
- communicating with you about testing
- contact you if you are the parent or guardian of someone who is participating in the Programme
- contact you with your child's test results by text message/email
- contact you relating to your child's positive or inconclusive result to collect other medical information about your child's health relating to COVID-19
- phone you to gather feedback to inform improvements that could be made to a full end-to-end testing process.

How long will my child's data be kept for?

Your child's information will be passed on to the DHSC who will share this information with NHS who will keep it for as long as it is required to provide your child with direct care and to support NHS initiatives to fight COVID-19.

Information held for direct care purposes are stored in line with the Records Management Code of Practice for Health and Social Care 2016. This means such information will be held for up to 8 years before it is deleted.