

About the programme

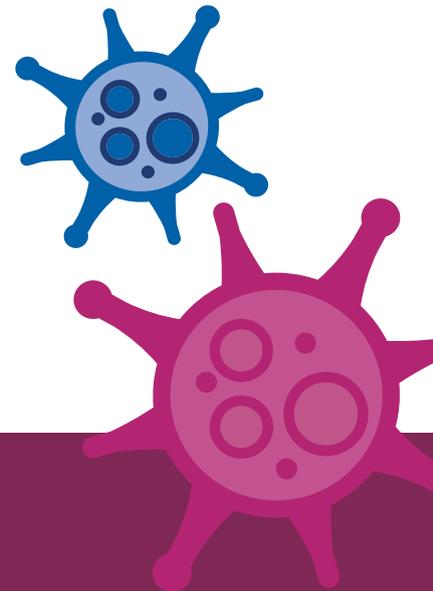
What is saliva testing?

Saliva samples offer a simple, non-invasive way to test whether your child has COVID-19. The test involves your child putting a small amount of their saliva in a tube and then dropping it off at school or college, where it's collected and analysed in a lab. Results are delivered via text and email message within 24-48 hours.



Why is it important for your child to participate?

Knowing who has COVID-19 is vital to stopping its spread. Large-scale weekly testing can help to identify people who have the virus but do not have any symptoms.

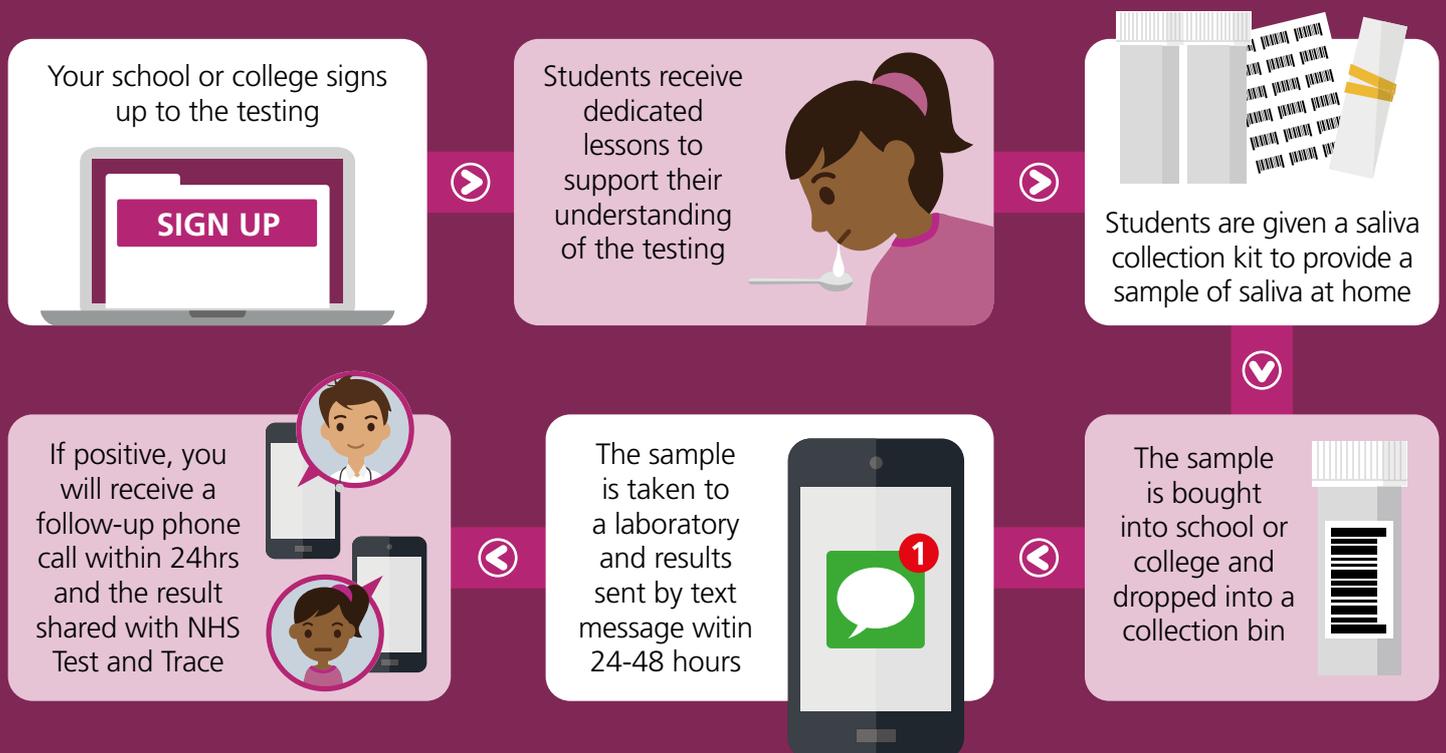


How is the saliva test different?

The saliva test is simple, accessible and non-invasive. Participants spit onto a clean teaspoon and transfer 2ml of saliva into a tube for testing. It does not involve throat or nose swabbing. Studies have proven that saliva samples are highly accurate and deliver reliable results. They also offer a timely first test for genomic sequencing, which contributes to important research into emerging variants of concern.

How does the programme work?

The image below shows the process of how the programme works and how we are supporting you, your child, and their school or college.



Supporting your child with saliva testing

1 Know their test day.

Add a diary, calendar or phone reminder.



5 Give prompts and reminders, as needed.

Encourage your child to carefully follow each step in the instructions for use leaflet.



2 Go through the instructions for use with them again.

Translated videos are also available. You can watch the video here:



www.hiowsalivatest.nhs.uk/test-results/how-to-test

6 Remind them to pack their sample.

Put the packaged sample straight into their school or college bag.



3 Remind them to provide their sample first thing in the morning.

Before breakfast or brushing teeth.



7 Provide reassurance, if needed.

Some children may feel anxious or unsure at first.



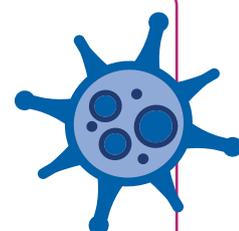
4 Ensure they use their unique barcode label.

Apply lengthways on top of the guide label on the sample tube so we can identify who the sample belongs to. Do not share barcode labels.



8 Encourage your child to keep their saliva collection kit and barcode labels somewhere safe so they don't get lost.

They'll need these to provide weekly saliva samples.



Top reasons why you may not get a result:

- The barcode label was not applied lengthways to the sample tube, as shown by the guide label.
- There was insufficient saliva in the sample tube (about 2ml is required).
- The sample was not packaged correctly.