



# KINGSDALE 11-19 FOUNDATION SCHOOL

Alley Park, Dulwich, London SE21 8SQ Tel:020 8670 7575 Fax:020 8766 7051

E-mail: [info@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:info@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk) Web:

[www.kingsdalefoundationschool.org.uk](http://www.kingsdalefoundationschool.org.uk)

Headteacher: Mr S. H. Morrison



## Co-educational Academy of Advanced, Artistic and Academic Studies

23rd February 2021

### Re: Invitation for Parent Volunteers for our School-Based COVID-19 Testing Centre

Dear Parents, Guardians, Carers,

We hope this letter finds all Kingsdale families safe and well. As you may be aware from the Prime Minister's announcement yesterday, it has been confirmed that schools will be required to reopen to all students during the week beginning Monday 8th March 2021. We will provide further details to parents and students about the school's plans for a staggered return for different year groups over the coming days, as further guidance is released by the Department for Education.

As part of the reopening arrangements, secondary schools will be required to administer 3 initial on-site COVID-19 tests to returning students (subject to parental consent), alongside continued testing for returning staff. This new obligation requires a significant expansion of our current on-site testing provision.

As part of our planning for delivery of this testing provision and in order to address the logistical challenges posed by this temporary scaling-up of our current testing arrangements, we are seeking the help of reliable parent volunteers to assist with the administration of the tests which will take place during the school day from Monday 8th March until Thursday 18th March 2021 in the Sports Hall. **Please note that no medical or clinical expertise is required and full training will be given to any parents who are willing to assist with this important step in minimising the risk of transmission of Covid-19 at Kingsdale.**

Our on-site rapid testing provision employs the new, quicker tests known as 'lateral flow tests' or 'LFDs', which can provide a result within approximately 30 minutes. Students taking the test at the school will self-administer and be supervised by trained volunteers and staff. The lateral flow tests are quick and easy and require a brief swab of the nose and throat. Full Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will be provided to all volunteers who are able to assist the school and at no point will volunteers be required to be in physical contact with students or staff. Results of the test will be shared directly and confidentially with the participating students and their parents.

**Parents willing to volunteer to assist with the administration of this testing regime can access the link [here](#) indicating the days on which they would be available to support the school.** When we have received your expression of interest, we will forward further guidance regarding school safeguarding requirements, training and the specific days on which you will be required to assist.

Parents who are considering volunteering may find the following links useful as sources of additional information:



- Information on how the COVID-19 test will be administered at school – please click [here](#)
- Government guidance on COVID-19 testing in schools – please click [here](#)

Please note that to volunteer for this provision, it is not necessary to have an existing DBS (Disclosure & Barring Service) certificate as volunteers will be supervised at all times. It is also not a requirement for volunteers to have been themselves vaccinated. However, we would not be comfortable employing parent volunteers who are deemed to be in a high risk COVID-19 related category or are within the 'bubble' of a third party that is so. Please accept our apologies if you feel excluded by this condition but feel at liberty to let us know if you wish to help the school in any of the many other safe ways possible.

Should you have any queries or concerns about volunteering at Kingsdale as part of our Rapid Testing Programme, please do not hesitate to contact me at the school via [covidnotification@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:covidnotification@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk) .

Thank you in advance for giving this request your consideration. We continue to be overwhelmed by the support we have received from parents and carers throughout this difficult period and look forward to continuing to work closely with our school community to keep us all as safe as possible at this time.

Kind regards,

Daniel Harding  
Acting Deputy Headteacher