

Participant Information Sheet

Secondary School Students (Year 7 – Year 11)

COVID-19 Schools Infection Survey 2 (SIS2)

As you probably know, the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic continues to affect all of our lives. We are carrying out a study about how coronavirus has affected you in your school and would like to invite you to take part.

Taking part is your decision. We would like you to read this information sheet with a parent or someone who looks after you. You can ask them or you can contact us if you have any questions.

Why is this work important?

We are trying to find out how many pupils have had the coronavirus infection before. The study is important because the information we get will help us protect people against the coronavirus.

Why have we asked you to take part?

We are asking school pupils across England if they will take part.

What will we ask you to do?

If you agree to help us, we will ask you and your parents some questions about your health and well-being. We will then carry out one type of test:



Saliva swab

We will ask for a sample of your saliva by rubbing a small sponge on a stick around your mouth, like brushing your teeth, for two minutes. This tests whether you had the virus in the past.

You will also be asked to fill in an online questionnaire after testing. We will send a link to the survey directly to you by email or text, using contact details given by your parent or guardian. This will ask about topics such as your health and wellbeing and your opinion of COVID-19 vaccines. This information is needed to help your education following the pandemic.

You can choose if you take part.

You do not have to take part. Taking part or not is entirely your choice. You are free to change your mind and can withdraw from any round of testing.

Who will do the tests?

You can do the saliva sample yourself. The study staff will wear appropriate protective clothing.

What are the good things about taking part?

You will help us find out how many pupils across England have had the coronavirus in the past. We will use this information to help keep people safe.

What will happen next?

We will visit your school three times before Easter. Your school will tell your parents when the next visit will be.

What we need you to do now

Please let your parents, or those who look after you, know if you want to take part, and they will let us know.

Thank you for your time.