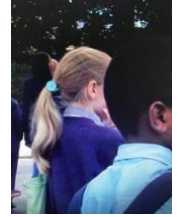


TraCK- Transmission of COVID-19 in Schools Study Invitation to take part

The TraCK Study and Schools Imperial College and PHE are undertaking a study to measure transmission of COVID-19 in London schools called TraCK (Transmission of Coronavirus in Kids). Based on results so far, younger children appear unlikely to spread infection in schools but we really need more information, especially from older pupils who return to school in the summer term. We want to hear from the parents or guardian of any young person who has just been diagnosed with COVID-19, either on a lateral flow or PCR test, and attends school in **London**.



If your child is newly diagnosed with COVID-19 and has been attending school, we need your help!

If they were in school at a time when they were likely to have been infectious, we would like to find out-

- How long the virus is carried for by children and young people if they are infected?
- Can we detect the virus in the household environment and in others at home?
- Does the virus spread in the school among pupils who are contacts, or the environment?

If you and your child are interested in being part of the study, please contact us as soon as possible using the details below. The Study Team can visit you at home. We provide a shopping voucher to each participant as acknowledgement of the time used taking part. We separately contact the school and ask for permission to conduct research there too. All research is voluntary and people can change their minds at any stage. We hope that you will want to take part.

How can you take part? If you contact us to say you would like to take part, we will collect some details from you, such as the age of the child, number in the household, symptoms, date of the test, most recent date attending school, and the name of the school. We will send you a leaflet that explains how we do the research with a consent form attached.

If you want to take part because of a positive test please contact the TraCK team specialist nadia.abdulla2@nhs.net OR call and leave a message for us on the TraCK Study phone 07597 510347



How do we do the research? We take simple samples like saliva (spit), nostril, and throat swabs and a cheek swab. None of these are painful or dangerous. We collect swabs from others in the house if they want to take part. The results come back next day usually.



We also swab common household items and take air samples. We time our visits around you. The first visit sometimes takes longer as we have to collect consent forms. The time taken depends on the number being swabbed, but is usually no more than 1 hour. We always wear PPE, and are regularly PCR-tested for COVID-19. We can do doorstep tests if you prefer, and these are rather quicker but sometimes less private; it's up to you.

Results of the investigations The results will be fed back to you as soon as possible and usually next working day.

Your results are private, but if a result is positive we will need to take more details to inform your GP and Test & Trace.

Safeguarding All contact with children will be undertaken by qualified professionals who can work with children. This will usually be a nurse or doctor and may be accompanied by a technician. Healthcare staff undertake safeguarding training and all our staff have enhanced DBS checks.

Confidentiality and Ethical Approval All confidential information related to participants will be kept securely by the study clinician, the lab testing the swabs, and PHE. Confidential information will not be shared with Imperial College who will analyse the viral samples and data. For more information about how we look after data please visit <https://www.imperial.ac.uk/medicine/hpru-amr/patient-and-public-information/schools-transmission>. The study has full ethical approval from an independent national Research Ethics Committee and has been peer-reviewed and funded by UKRI.

The research is being done by [Imperial College London](https://www.imperial.ac.uk) together with [Public Health England](https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england). The investigators are, from Imperial College London: Professors Shiranee Sriskandan, Wendy Barclay, and Graham Taylor and, from PHE: Drs. Rebecca Cordery, Miranda Mindlin, and Theresa Lamagni. If you want to know more or see the study leaflets please contact us at head.ops@imperial.ac.uk