



January 14, 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are writing to you about a new partnership to help in identifying our students who may be infected with COVID-19 but who are not experiencing symptoms. As you may be aware, there are many times individuals may be carrying and potentially exposing others to COVID-19 without knowing they are infected.

The Christina School District, working with the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services – Division of Public Health (DPH), is offering free Antigen testing to all students participating in the Hybrid Learning and in-person extracurricular activities in all schools and programs in the Christina School District. The district will be testing asymptomatic (without symptoms) individuals only with the Antigen testing. **There is no cost to you or to your insurance.**

The process is much easier than some of the other testing processes you may have seen. The student simply takes the cotton tipped swab and swirls this into the front of both of their nostrils. For students that need assistance, there will be staff support to complete the process. There is no need to go deep into the nasal passage like some of the other testing. The cotton tipped swab is then put into a small tube with the activating solution and then put onto a test cassette for reading. **Instruction and assistance will be provided for your student.**

**Results:** If your child's test results are positive, you will be immediately notified to pick up your child. Your child must have an additional PCR (test for COVID-19) test done within 48 hours to confirm the results. The school will provide you with a location where the PCR test can be performed. Additionally, your child will be moved to a location/room away from other students until your child is picked up from school.

**Consent Form:** A consent form will be needed in order for your child to participate in testing. The Antigen test consent form can be found on the [Christina Reopening website](#) or your child's school website to be completed. If needed you can request a hard copy consent form by calling your child's school. The consent will be in place until August 31, 2021 unless you notify your child's school nurse in writing that you revoke the consent.

**Begin Testing:** The Christina School District will begin the Antigen testing on January 19th when the students return for the Hybrid Learning. We are arranging for antigen testing to occur periodically for students participating in the Hybrid Learning and in-person extracurricular activities in all schools and programs in the Christina School District. The testing will be performed on a rotating basis. Each school's testing dates will be posted on the school and district websites. If you consent, your child may be selected for testing on one or more of these occasions. You will receive notification verifying if your child was tested on that day. In addition, your child may also be tested throughout the school year on days scheduled by the Christina School District.

An FAQ on the Antigen testing provided by the Christina School District is available on the district website and can be found by also clicking [here](#). Please feel free to contact your school nurse if you have any additional questions.

For general questions on COVID-19 and prevention, visit the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services – Division of Public Health's website at <https://coronavirus.delaware.gov>, call 2-1-1, or text your ZIP code to 898-211 for deaf and hard of hearing.