

HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT SALIVA TESTING PROGRAMME

Latest news from across the programme



THE PROGRAMME IN NUMBERS*

Number of education settings involved **58**

57% Staff uptake*
Staff participation* **54%**

61% Student uptake*
Student participation* **41%**

17,148 Total samples processed through the lab from schools and colleges
Volume of saliva (2mls) from staff and students **34.3 litres**

* Data for week beginning 8th November
* Uptake; Number of participants in schools/college community who have provided 1 sample
* Participation; Number of participants who have provided at least 1 sample previously and who have provided a sample this week

WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

A big welcome to **The Gregg School** in Southampton and **Barton Peveril College** in Eastleigh, and students at **Farnborough College of Technology** and **Itchen College** in Southampton who all join the programme this week. We hope you find the test simple, convenient and reassuring in helping to keep your school community safer.

COULD SOUTHAMPTON BE THE NEXT CITY OF CULTURE 2025? #MakelItSO

Southampton is bidding to become the UK City of Culture in 2025. This is a huge opportunity for the city to celebrate the wealth of cultural activity taking place, showcase the city's diversity and show how these are being used to address some of the challenges the city is facing. There is great support from partners across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight who recognise the opportunity this could bring to the region, particularly for young people.



Southampton is one of 8 longlisted locations to move to the next stage!

A new exhibition at Southampton's SeaCity museum opens at the end of November. It is called 'Southampton Stories', and includes exhibits from residents across the region illustrating their experiences of the pandemic, including the 'Escape Coronavirus' Escape Room used in our educational resources!



DID YOU KNOW?

There is no need to wait for 90 days following a positive saliva test before restarting saliva testing

#MakelItSO @southampton2025

WHAT IS GENOME SEQUENCING?

Genome sequencing is when a virus undergoes close examination in a lab. The scientists look at the genetic code of the virus to look for changes and mutations. This allows us to find any potential new variants quickly and develop new medicines and treatments for COVID-19.

It is important we have 2mls of saliva in every sample, to allow us to send every positive sample that is tested at our lab for genome sequencing.



Thank you for contributing to this vital scientific work by submitting your samples. You are helping to stop COVID-19 in more ways than you might realise.

HEADTEACHER QUOTE

“Thank you to UHS for all their support setting up the Saliva Testing programme at Saint George. It has given our students and staff reassurance that we are doing everything we can to keep us all safe and the confidence to come to school. The process this week has been very smooth and efficient.”

James Habberley
Saint George Catholic College,
Southampton

MEET THE TEAM

There is a large team of people, all working to deliver the Saliva Testing Programme in your schools and colleges. This week we would like you to meet Claire Colbain who is responsible for helping to check and validate your data, and also supports the production of educational resources for parents and teachers. She enjoys helping the community locally and further afield.

Watch Claire's video [here](#)

<https://bit.ly/HIOWClaireColbain>



PARTICIPATION LEADERBOARD

Congratulations to the **Cove School** for increasing student participation in all year groups and also to **Maytree Nursery and Infant School** for increasing student participation.

A special mention to the **Henry Cort Community College** for having consistently high participation rates over the 9 weeks that they have been participating and continuing to push student participation up each week.

VIEW FROM THE REGION

Data is from the national government [website](#), as at 11 November 2021

Hampshire:
161,932 total cases
5,932 new cases in last 7 days
Trend: **Downwards**

Southampton:
34,851 total cases
1,037 new cases in last 7 days
Trend: **Downwards**

Portsmouth:
30,633 total cases
851 new cases in last 7 days
Trend: **Upwards**

Isle of Wight:
16,079 total cases
508 new cases in last 7 days
Trend: **Downwards**

Go to our [website](http://www.hiowsalivatest.nhs.uk) (www.hiowsalivatest.nhs.uk) to contact the support team via webchat or you can use the freephone number: 0808 1962282. Hours this week are Monday to Thursday: 8.30am - 5.00pm, Friday: 8.30am - 4.00pm and Saturday: 9.00am - 1.00pm.

#BEPARTOFTHE SOLUTION