



Office for
National Statistics



NatCen
Social Research

Study contact: [DELETE AS APPROPRIATE] [IQVIA TO ADD] [NatCen TO ADD]

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET FOR OLDER CHILDREN AND TEENAGERS (10-15 YEARS)

COVID-19 Infection Survey

We'd like to invite you to take part in a study about the new coronavirus. Taking part is your decision. We would like you to read this leaflet with a parent or someone who looks after you and ask them or us any questions you want.

What are we doing?

In this study, we are trying to find out how many people are still getting the coronavirus infection as people start going back to school and work. We also want to find out how many people might have had coronavirus in the past without realising it.

We hope that lots of people from about 220,000 homes all over the country will take part over a year. This is so we can see what happens to the virus over this time. The study is important because the information we get will help us and the government work out how to manage coronavirus better.

Why have I been asked to take part?

For this study, we are asking everyone in your home aged 2 years or older if they would like to take part. We are not just testing people who have signs of having the virus, like fever or cough, because we know that sometimes people can get the virus without symptoms.

Do I have to take part?

No, taking part in this study is entirely your choice. You are free to change your mind at any time. You can stop taking part even if your Mum, Dad or others who look after you want you to continue. Everyone in your home can make a different choice.

What will happen if I decide to take part?

A study worker will come to your home. They will chat to you and everyone else there to find out who is happy to join the study. If you are 12 years or older, they will show you how to take a swab from your nose and throat that we will use to test for the virus. The swab is a soft sponge on a stick and doesn't hurt. If you aren't 12 yet, one of your parents or carers will help do this. The study worker will ask you some short questions.

We will also ask you whether you would mind having more visits just like this one in the future. This is to see how the number of people still getting infected with coronavirus

changes over the next few months. You could agree to

- A: no further visits
- B: further visits every week for one month (5 visits in total)
- C: further visits every week for one month, and then every month through the year after your first study visit (16 visits in total)

You do not have to agree to any more visits after the first one.

What are the bad things about taking part?

It may be uncomfortable for a minute while the nose and throat swab is being taken. The study also includes some questions which takes extra time, about 5 minutes in all, each visit.

What are the good things about taking part?

You will be helping us find out how many people across the UK still have the coronavirus now and how many are still getting it over the next few months. What we find out from this study will help scientists and the government work out the best way to manage the virus in the UK over the next year.

What will happen to the samples I give?

Your nose and throat swabs will be tested at a national laboratory using the standard test to find out if someone currently has coronavirus.

What will happen to my information?

We will use your name, address and date of birth to get information about you from the NHS.

Will anyone else know I am in the study?

No – only the people running the study will know.

What happens at the end of the study?

The results are already being shared so that everyone knows what we are finding (<https://www.ndm.ox.ac.uk/results>) – we aren't waiting until the end of the study for everyone to learn from it. None of this information identifies you or your family.

I want to take part. What should I do?

If you want to take part in the study, let your parents or those who look after you know, and they will let the study health worker know.

Thank you for thinking about helping us.