

# COVID-19 SAFETY CHECKS FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Covid-19 Safety Checks, formerly known as pool testing, is a valuable mitigation strategy in controlling the spread of COVID-19 and its variants. This school year the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) is funding this opportunity for Norwood Public Schools.

We will continue using the Veritas saliva test method and our weekly test date will be Thursdays beginning 9/16/21. All samples will need to be dropped off by 9:00 a.m.

- All students and staff who wish to participate must submit a one-time consent for testing. Please use this link: <https://www.cic-health.com/consent/ma>
- After completing the consent, you will automatically be registered on the Veritas site.
- Collection kits will be available in the school nurses' offices on Wednesdays. A reminder announcement to pick up a kit will be made during the school day.
- Collect your sample at home. You may even collect your sample the night before. If you choose to collect the night before, just do not refrigerate it. This link provides a demonstration of how easy it is to collect a sample: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zV624zBLDgBo6G5EiMtHhTIZyqZrwDul/view>
- After you have collected your sample you will need to put your initials and date of birth on the collection vial. When you drop off your sample the QR code will need to be scanned at school in order to link your sample to your account and school. Veritas Genetics is a high complexity CLIA-certified and CAP accredited laboratory, by regulation, any samples that arrive at the lab without initials, date of birth and linked to an account will not be tested and discarded.
- Please make sure you drop your test sample off at school before 9:00 a.m. Samples dropped off after 9:00 a.m. will not be tested.
- If you have any questions you may also reach out to your school nurse or Jill Driscoll at [jdriscoll@norwood.k12.ma.us](mailto:jdriscoll@norwood.k12.ma.us) or 781-440-5843