Staff and pupil/student testing – quick, safe, easy



Staff, pupils and students will be tested using a validated Lateral Flow Device.

Up to a third of individuals who test positive for COVID-19 have no symptoms at all and can therefore spread it unknowingly. That is why the testing of people without symptoms is vital. Identifying those individuals will save lives. This is what is known as 'mass testing'.

Initially testing will be provided for all secondary pupils students and staff as they return from the Christmas holidays. After this, staff will be tested once a week on an ongoing basis.

Pupils, students and staff will be tested if they come into contact with a positive case. This new approach, known as 'serial contact testing', will allow those who are in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 to return to school or college if they agree to be tested for 7 days* following last contact with a positive case.

Quick

Swabbing and processing of these tests will be conducted at a dedicated testing site in the school or college with **results available in around 30 minutes**.

Safe

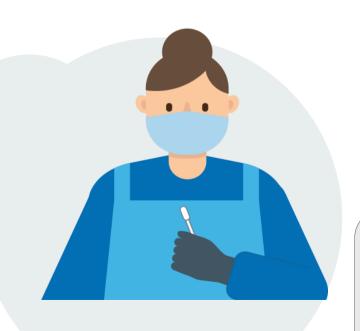
These tests work. In validation studies conducted by Oxford University and Public Health England, they

were shown to be as accurate in identifying a case as a PCR test (99.8% specificity). The tests have lower sensitivity, but they are better at picking up cases when a person has higher viral load, hence the need to test frequently.

When used in combination with other measures such as Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), washing hands regularly and social distancing, these tests further reduce the risk of transmission. We must not relax any of these measures – this testing programme is in addition to them.

Easy

Lateral flow devices **do not require a laboratory** to process the test. The devices are designed to be intuitive and require minimal training to operate.



Lateral Flow Testing







Accessible and easy to use



No lab required, with fast results



Safe technology

* If staff, pupils or students cannot take a test (e.g. on the weekend) they should self-isolate for that day, and resume serial contact testing on their return to school / college. If they return after the 7 days are finished, then they should take one final test, and if it is negative they can return to school/college.



A new approach to close contacts – 'serial contact testing'* Test and Trace

Printable guidance for Schools and Colleges

A new approach known as 'serial contact testing' has been developed to help find more asymptomatic cases. This will allow those (pupils/students and staff) who are in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 to return to school/college. If they agree to be tested for 7 days* following their last contact with a positive case.

IMPORTANT: If, at any point, a student/pupil or staff member begins displaying symptoms they must follow government guidelines, order a PCR test and self-isolate.

I want to take the daily test...

You'll need to take a lateral flow test at the start of each day for **7 days***

You can choose to opt out from daily testing at any time and self-isolate.

I'd rather stay at home...

If you do not wish to be tested daily or are unable to be tested for any reason, you must self-isolate in accordance with <u>national</u> <u>quidance</u> until 10 days after the person they are a contact of tested positive

If your lateral flow test is negative

Continue with your normal activities until your next test is due.

If your lateral flow test is positive

Follow the national guidance, and take a confirmatory PCR test, self isolate until the result of your PCR test is available.

Any new positive cases
during serial contact testing
will reset the clock for the
serial contact testing (daily
testing) to the start of 7 days.

If your PCR test is positive

Complete 10 days self isolation. All other identified close contacts and household members of this positive case will now also follow the national guidance.

If your PCR test is negative

Continue with your normal activities until your next LFD test is due.

*If the participant cannot take a test (e.g. on the weekend), they should self-isolate for that day, and resume serial contact testing on their return to school / college. If they return after the 7 days are finished, then they should take one test to complete the self-isolation period, and if it is negative they can return to school/college and their testing period is complete (even if they have not taken 7 tests in total).





A close contact of my

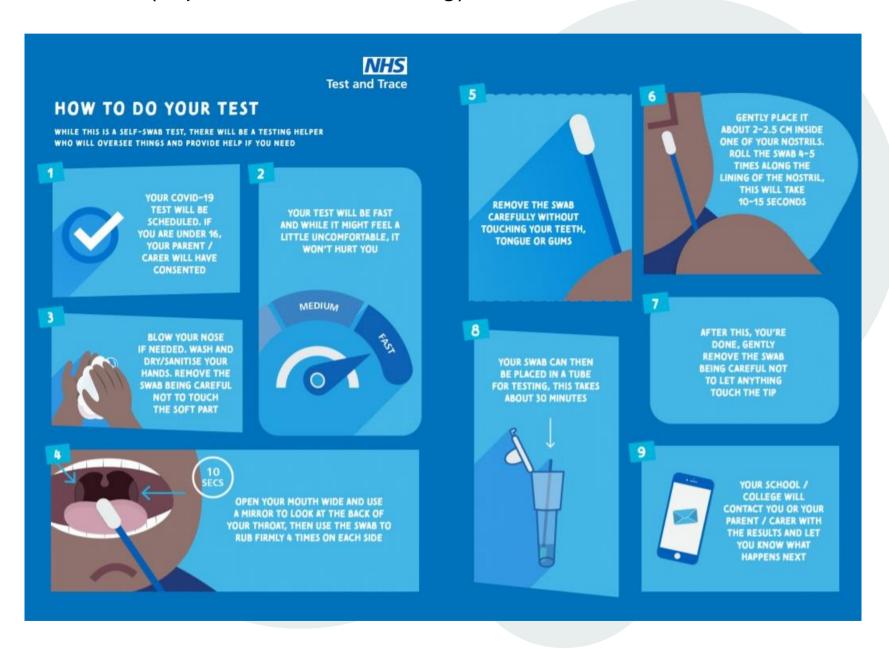
college tested positive.

child at school /



How the testing process works

For pupils/students (supervised self-swabbing)



Please find instructional leaflet in the separate attachment on the portal



COVID-related pupil/student absence –

Printable Guidance for Parents and Pupils/Students (1/2)

The guidance below addresses what a positive or negative test result means for your child and your household, and the support available to you.

What happens if a close contact of my child tests positive on a Lateral Flow Device?

- They can consent to take part in 'serial contact testing' where they are tested daily for 7 days
- If they test negative, they can remain in school/college that day
- If you or they do not wish to take part, they will need to self-isolate

What do I need to do if my child tests **positive** for COVID-19 on a Lateral Flow Device?

- They will need to take a further 'PCR test' to confirm the positive result
- Contact the school / college to inform us of the PCR test result which you will receive via text / email
- If the PCR result is positive, your child will need to self-isolate for a minimum of 10 days

How does my child testing positive impact the rest of my household?

- Your household will have to self-isolate for 10 days
- Follow the latest government guidance.

When can my child return to school / college after testing positive for COVID-19?

- There will be no need for them to self-isolate and they can remain in school / college as normal
- Social distancing and face coverings where appropriate will remain necessary

What if my child tests

negative for COVID-19 on a
Lateral Flow Device?

- Your child can stop self-isolating and return to school / college on day 11 after the positive PCR test if they've not had a high temperature for 48 hours and are well
- They can return then even if they have a cough or loss of taste/smell as these symptoms can last for several weeks



COVID-related pupil/student absence –

Printable Guidance for Parents and Pupils/Students (2/2)

The guidance below addresses what a positive or negative test result means for your child and your household, and the support available to you.

What does a positive result mean for my child's education?

We have a strong commitment to ensuring all pupils/students can access a wide range of learning resources remotely and will continue to support their education whilst they are self-isolating.

Additional information can be found https://bit.ly/covidhomelearning Addressing your concerns

https://bit.ly/covidhomelearning

If you're worried about your child
medically, visit https://www.nhs.uk/ or call
111.

For more information you can visit:



IMPORTANT: If, at any point, a student/pupil or staff member begins displaying symptoms they must <u>follow government guidelines</u>, <u>order a PCR test</u> and self-isolate.