



FAO: Parents & carers

RE: Moving from COVID-19 testing for students in College to home testing

Dear Parents / Carers

Up to one in three people who have COVID-19 can spread the virus without knowing. This is because they have no symptoms. To reduce the spread of the virus, we need to identify those individuals. We can do this in Denton Community College by carrying out tests at home twice every week, 3-4 days apart. [The Government has recently announced that](#) all secondary and college aged students will be offered tests to make the return to Denton Community College safer for everyone.

If you gave consent for your child to take part in the COVID-19 testing taking place in College then no further action is needed; your child will receive their first batch of home testing kits this week when they receive their third and final test in College.

If you did not give consent for your child to take part in the COVID-19 testing taking place in College then you may still opt-in to home testing for your child by completing this form: [Consent form for opting-in to Home testing for your child/children](#)

If you choose to opt-in to home testing for your child, they will receive their first batch of home testing kits in the week commencing Monday 22nd March, 2021.

Testing students at home

Students are asked to take two home tests per week. We would like students to take their first test either on a Sunday evening or a Monday morning before school and their second test either on a Wednesday evening or a Thursday morning before school. Make sure you have enough time for your child to take the test before going to College. Preferably this would be in the morning. However, we understand that for some people this may be challenging. Therefore, tests can be taken the evening before college if needed.

You will also need to share the result of each test with us by completing this form after every test: [Log Your Child's Home Test](#)

Tests are free of charge. Students will receive two packs of 3 tests in a box with a leaflet on how to take the test and report the results on the NHS Test & Trace website.

Taking the test

When students are issued with the home test kits, they will be given a leaflet with instructions on how to do the test with the kit. There is also a useful video to show you how to take the test [here](#).

[Help and support is available](#), including instructions in different languages, on how to test and report the results.

HEADTEACHER: Mr G Rule

There is no need to keep used test equipment after the test result has been reported. You can put it in your normal bin (household waste).

This does not replace symptomatic testing. If you have symptoms, you should self-isolate immediately, book a PCR test and follow national guidelines.

What should you do after the test?

If anyone **tests positive you, your household and any support bubbles you are part of** should self-isolate immediately in line with NHS Test and Trace guidance for 10 days.

You need to report your result to both [NHS Test and Trace](#) and Denton Community College.

You should [order a confirmatory PCR test](#) if you are testing at home (confirmatory PCR tests are not needed if the test was conducted at the Asymptomatic Test Site at college).

If the result of the test is **unclear (void)**, you should do another test.

Negative and void results should be reported to both [NHS Test & Trace](#) and Denton Community College.

A negative result does not guarantee that you are not carrying the virus. So, you should continue to follow social distancing, and other measures to reduce transmission such as wearing a face mask and regularly washing your hands and observing social distancing.

If you or anyone in your household gets symptoms of the virus, you should follow [national guidelines on self-isolation and testing](#).

You need to report each test result

The result of each test needs to be reported using the NHS Test & Trace self-report website: <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>. You will also need to tell the school the result of each test by completing this form after every test: [Log Your Child's Home Test](#)

Why should my child take part?

Taking part in testing is voluntary and all students will be able to attend Denton Community College whether they take part in testing or not. I am strongly encouraging all students to take part. Testing at home will allow your child and other students to attend Denton Community College as safely as possible. Please contact Deputy Head Mr. Donald Cumming or Assistant Head Mr. Steve Nixon, if you have any questions or concerns about home testing.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely



Greg Rule
Headteacher

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