



FAO: Parents & Carers of Students at Denton Community College

RE: Covid-19 Home Testing Update

Dear Parents & Carers

Testing has been playing a vital role in the response to COVID-19. It is helping to break chains of transmission by identifying asymptomatic positive cases quickly. This means those who test positive can self-isolate, keeping other pupils and students in face-to-face education. Reporting all test results, positive or negative, helps the health experts have a clearer picture of any potential outbreaks in different parts of the country.

Currently those students whose parents/carers have given consent take lateral flow device tests twice a week at home to detect asymptomatic cases of COVID-19 and parents/carers report the results, logging them on the [NHS Website](#) and [College's Logging Site](#). If you are having no issues taking the home tests or logging the results then we ask you to continue doing so until the end of term. We continue to recommend students take their tests either on a Sunday evening or a Monday morning before school and either on a Wednesday evening or a Thursday morning before school.

If your child has been taking part in home testing but you have experienced issues in them taking the tests or logging results, we are going to offer the option for them to test on-site in college during the period from Monday, 28th June 2021 through to Friday, 9th July 2021, should you wish. This option is available as we are taking part in a project run by the Department for Education and NHS Test and Trace to encourage participation in regular rapid testing amongst secondary school and college students. Students will be asked to self-swab and process the test (as they have been doing at home) in a designated area. A trained staff member will then monitor the test result as it develops (allowing the pupil/student to return to class and will read and report the result on the pupil/students' behalf. This is different to the previous Asymptomatic Test Site (ATS) model where students self-swabbed and trained staff processed the test, as well as reading and reporting the result. If you would like for your child/children to switch to on-site testing for this period then simply let us know by completing this [Google Form](#) by 3pm on Wednesday, 23rd June 2021.

If you did not give consent for your child to take part in the COVID-19 testing that took place in college earlier in the year, and you chose not to opt-in to home testing for your child but you would like to use this opportunity for them to begin regular testing, the option for them to test on-site in college during the period from Monday, 28th June 2021 through to Friday, 9th July 2021, is also open to them should you wish. If you would like for your child/children to undertake on-site testing for this period and then continue home testing afterwards then you need to give your consent for them to do so. Please read the attached letter outlining our approach to testing in more detail and the attached COVID-19 testing privacy statement detailing the data we will need to collect from you and how it will be treated. If after reading these documents you wish to give your consent for your child/children to take part in the testing programme then please complete the [Consent form for Student COVID-19 testing at Denton Community College](#) by 3pm on Wednesday, 23rd June 2021.

Please feel free to contact Steve Nixon, Assistant Headteacher by email at s.nixon@dentoncommunitycollege.org.uk if you have any questions about the testing that he can answer for you.

HEADTEACHER: Mr G Rule

Please remember that if you or your child has any of the Covid-19 symptoms you should not send them into school; book a PCR test through the NHS; then you and your household must self-isolate whilst you wait for the results.

As before the Covid symptoms are still:

- a new, persistent cough
- a temperature
- a change in sense of smell or taste

These remain difficult times and we thank you for your ongoing support not only in the education of the young people of Denton but also the safety and wellbeing of all our stakeholders.

Yours sincerely



Greg Rule
Headteacher