

11th March 2021

Dear School Community,

Context for Self-Testing (Pupils and their Families)

The DfE is urging all pupils of secondary school and college age to undertake self-testing twice weekly. They are also rolling out self-testing to households with primary and secondary aged children. Primary aged children do **not** need to be tested.

The rationale behind this roll out according to Professor Yvonne Doyle, Medical Director at Public Health England, is to: *"help uncover hidden cases of the virus and break chains of transmission, stopping outbreaks before they occur"*.

Once you begin testing, the responsibility for reporting your test results lies with you.

Self-Test Kits for Families Now Available

We have now received the appropriate self-testing kits for distribution to pupils of secondary school and college age, and their families.

Collection of Self-Test Kits

If you would like to collect self-testing kits for your family, please come to the school office during the opening hours of 8.30-9.15am and 2.45-3.30pm.

The tests are located just inside the door (to the left). Simply come in, collect 2 test packs (each containing 3 tests) for each person you wish to test within your household, and sign these out using the form on the clipboard provided.

Testing Results

Negative Result

A negative result means the test did not find signs of coronavirus.

You do not usually need to self-isolate if you get a negative result. But this does not guarantee you do not have coronavirus, so you must keep following all [social distancing advice](#).

You may still need to self-isolate after a negative test if:

- someone you live with has tested positive or has symptoms and has not had a test yet – [find out how long to self-isolate](#)
- you've been told you've been in contact with someone who tested positive – [find out what to do if you're told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace](#)
- you're going into hospital – keep self-isolating until you go in
- you've recently travelled to England from abroad – [find out how to quarantine when you arrive in England on GOV.UK](#)

If you still feel unwell after a negative test, stay at home until you're feeling better. Contact a GP if your symptoms get worse or do not go away.

If you're being sick, have diarrhoea or have a high temperature, stay at home until 48 hours after they've stopped.

Check with your employer before going back to work.

If you get coronavirus symptoms after the test, you need to get tested again.

If you did a rapid lateral flow test at home and the result was positive:

- you and anyone you live with should self-isolate immediately
- [report your rapid lateral flow test result on GOV.UK](#) as soon as possible
- get a PCR test to confirm your result – follow any instructions you're given or [get a test to check if you have coronavirus on GOV.UK](#)

Continue to self-isolate until you get the result of the PCR test. Follow the advice you're given when you get the result.

Positive Result

A positive result means it's likely you had coronavirus when the test was done. **You and anyone you live with must self-isolate immediately.**

When your rapid lateral flow test at home provides a positive result:

- you and anyone you live with should self-isolate immediately
- [report your rapid lateral flow test result on GOV.UK](#) as soon as possible
- get a PCR test to confirm your result – follow any instructions you're given or [get a test to check if you have coronavirus on GOV.UK](#)

Continue to self-isolate until you get the result of the PCR test. Follow the advice you're given when you get the result.

Regular testing is encouraged by the Government but it is not mandatory.

Kindest regards,

Kaycee A Fordham
Executive Assistant to Education Manager
COVID Safety Designated Person