

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

- Staff and pupils/students will be tested using validated Lateral Flow Antigen tests

Up to **a third of individuals who test positive for coronavirus have no symptoms** at all and can therefore spread it unknowingly. That is why the testing of people without symptoms is so important. Identifying those who unknowingly have the virus will save lives. This is known as '**mass testing**'.

By **testing staff once a week** we will be helping to keep schools and colleges as safe as we can.

We will also be able to **keep more teachers, support staff and pupils/students in education**. Previously, close contacts had to isolate if one student or staff member tested positive. Now, those who are close contacts can return to school/college if they agree to be tested once a day in the morning – known as '**serial testing**'.

Both staff and pupils/students will be eligible for serial testing in the initial phase, though only staff will be eligible initially for weekly testing.

Quick

Swabbing and processing of these tests will be conducted at a dedicated testing site in school / college **once a week** either by trained personnel or as a self-test with supervision from trained personnel, with **results 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 PPE, washing hands regularly and social distancing, these tests will enable people to live their lives in as normal a way as possible.

Lateral flow antigen tests detect the presence or absence of coronavirus by applying a swab or saliva sample to the device's absorbent pad.

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



Note: graphics on this page have been developed to communicate with parents and students. For older students there is an animated video here: <https://twitter.com/10DowningStreet/status/1328387524490911745?s=20>

There are also resources available for schools / colleges to talk to young people about COVID and mass testing at www.storicise.com

Test instructions / Posters

For pupils/students (assisted swabbing)

HOW TO GET YOUR COVID-19 TEST

- 1** YOUR COVID-19 TEST WILL BE SCHEDULED. IF YOU ARE UNDER 16, YOUR PARENT / CARER WILL HAVE CONSENTED. SOMEONE WILL BE THERE IF YOU NEED HELP
- 2** YOU'LL OPEN YOUR MOUTH AND SAY 'AHHHH', SO THAT A SWAB CAN BE RUBBED AT THE BACK OF YOUR THROAT, IT MIGHT FEEL A LITTLE UNCOMFORTABLE BUT IT WON'T HURT (ONLY 2.5CM/1 INCH)
- 3** THE SWAB WILL BE REMOVED CAREFULLY AND WILL THEN BE PLACED GENTLY UP ONE OF YOUR NOSTRILS
- 4** THE SWAB WILL THEN BE TURNED GENTLY 5 TIMES, THIS TAKES ABOUT 10-15 SECONDS
- 5** AFTER THIS, YOUR SWAB WILL BE REMOVED GENTLY AND PLACED ON A PAD FOR TESTING
- 6** THAT'S IT, YOU'RE ALL DONE AND YOUR TEST IS COMPLETE. YOUR SCHOOL WILL LET YOU AND YOUR PARENT OR CARER KNOW WHAT HAPPENS NEXT





Please find posters in the separate attachment

Test instructions / Booklet


For pupils/students (assisted swabbing)


HOW TO GET YOUR COVID-19 TEST


- 

YOUR COVID-19 TEST WILL BE SCHEDULED. IF YOU ARE UNDER 16, YOUR PARENT / CARER WILL HAVE CONSENTED
- 


WHEN YOU ARRIVE, SOMEONE WILL BE THERE IF YOU NEED HELP
- 


YOUR TEST WILL BE FAST AND WHILE IT MIGHT FEEL A LITTLE UNCOMFORTABLE, IT WON'T HURT YOU
- 

TO START YOU WILL BE ASKED TO OPEN YOUR MOUTH WIDELY AND SAY 'AHHHH' SO A SWAB CAN BE GENTLY RUBBED ON THE BACK OF YOUR THROAT
- 

AFTER 10 SECONDS, YOUR TESTING HELPER WILL CAREFULLY REMOVE THE SWAB AND GENTLY PLACE IT UP ONE OF YOUR NOSTRILS
- 

THE SWAB WILL THEN BE TURNED GENTLY 5 TIMES, THIS TAKES ABOUT 10-15 SECONDS
- 

AFTER THIS, YOUR SWAB WILL BE REMOVED GENTLY AND PLACED ON A PAD FOR TESTING
- 

YOU CAN ASK YOUR TESTING HELPER ANY QUESTIONS YOU HAVE BUT THAT'S IT, YOU'RE ALL DONE AND YOUR TEST IS COMPLETE
- 

YOUR SCHOOL / COLLEGE WILL CONTACT YOU OR YOUR PARENT / CARER WITH THE RESULTS AND LET YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS NEXT



Please find instructional leaflets in the separate attachment