

COVID-19 Testing Information for Parents and Carers

Testing Over the Easter Holidays

It is important for secondary school-aged pupils (Year 7 and above) to keep testing through the Easter holidays to manage the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19), as part of a regular habit of testing at home every 3-4 days (twice a week).

Asymptomatic Testing

Secondary school-aged pupils should continue to test twice weekly at home with Lateral Flow Device (LFD) tests.

- <u>LFD</u> tests must only be used for asymptomatic testing. If your child has ANY symptoms
 of Coronavirus, they must not use an LFD test and MUST <u>book a Polymerase Chain</u>
 Reaction (PCR) test online.
- If the LFD result is negative your child and household can carry on with their normal activities.
- If the LFD result is POSITIVE your <u>child and household must self-isolate straight away</u>
 and a confirmatory PCR test must be booked for your child. PCR tests can be booked
 <u>here.</u> Everyone in the household must begin self-isolating from the date of the positive
 test for 10 full days.
- If your child has a positive LFD result, please inform their school/college straight away so that contact tracing can begin as soon as possible.
- If their confirmatory PCR test returns a negative result this overrules an LFD test done at home (not onsite tests) and your child, household and close contacts can stop selfisolating and return to their normal activities.
- Pupils must <u>report their result</u> to NHS Test and Trace as soon as the test is completed
 either online or by telephone as per the instructions in the home test kit. This is
 applicable to all results whether positive, negative, or void.
- If your child receives a positive LFD result <u>WITHIN 48 hours</u> of being in the school/college setting, please contact the setting to make them aware of the positive result, so that they can begin contract tracing.
- If your child receives a positive LFD result <u>AFTER 48 hours</u> of being in the school/college setting you do not need to inform the setting of the positive result but MUST still <u>report</u> <u>their result</u> online.

Symptomatic Testing

- The asymptomatic testing programme does not replace the current testing policy for those with symptoms. Anyone with symptoms (even if they recently had a negative LFD test result), should still self-isolate immediately according to government guidelines.
 Those with symptoms are also expected to <u>order a test online or visit a test site</u> to take a PCR test to check if they have the virus.
- If your child has recently (within 90 days) had a positive test for COVID-19, they are
 likely to have developed some immunity. <u>Individuals are, therefore, exempt from
 testing by both PCR and LFD within 90 days of a positive PCR test, unless they develop
 new symptoms.</u>

Household LFD Testing

Adults in families and households with primary school, secondary school, and college aged children, including childcare and support bubbles, can test themselves twice every week. You can get tested at the Rapid Testing Centres detailed below. The testing centres are safe, and social distancing measures are always in place.

Eligible individuals can also collect home-test kits from the <u>Rapid Testing Centres</u> to test at home, please follow the <u>link</u> for opening hours. For people who have never tested before, they can take a test at one of our centres, to ensure they are following the process correctly and discuss any issues with staff. This will help everyone understand the process better and ensure greater accuracy of tests done at home.

Rapid Testing Centres

Flitwick Leisure Centre

Steppingley Road Flitwick Bedford Bedfordshire MK45 1TH **The Dunstable Centre**

Court Drive Dunstable Bedfordshire LU5 4JD Saxon Pool and Leisure Centre in Biggleswade

Saxon Drive Biggleswade Bedfordshire SG18 8SU

