25th March 2021

Dear Parent or Guardian

As you will be aware, students have been carrying out lateral flow tests since their return to college earlier this month. We are now moving to a system of students being tested once a week in college and once a week at home.

## Testing students at home

Year 9 students will be issued with their home test kits on Thursday 25th March 2021. We would like them to take their tests at home on a Friday morning before setting off for college every week. Their first home test will be on Friday 26th March. They will have their in-college test on a Tuesday each week.

Students will receive two packs of 3 tests, along with a leaflet on how to take the test and report the results. As well as reporting the results to Test and Trace you will also need to inform us of the result. You can do this by completing the Covid Test Result form on our website or giving us a call.

Please make sure you have enough time to do the test. Preferably this would be in the morning before setting off for college; however, we understand that for some people this may be challenging. Therefore, tests can be taken the evening before if needed.

## Taking the test

Students will be given a leaflet with instructions on how to carry out the test with the kit. There is also a useful video to show you how to take the test [here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9XR8RZxKNo&list=PLvaBZskxS7tzQYlVg7lwH5uxAD9UrSzGJ&index=1).

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

This does not replace symptomatic testing. If you have symptoms, you should self-isolate immediately, book a [PCR test](https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test%22%20/t%20%22_blank) and follow [national guidelines](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/%22%20/t%20%22_blank).

## 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 should [order a confirmatory PCR test](https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test) if you are testing at home (confirmatory PCR tests are not needed if the test was conducted at the Asymptomatic Test Site at school).

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

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](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/) 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 us the result of each test using the Covid Test Result form on our website [www.enlutc.co.uk](http://www.enlutc.co.uk). Alternatively, you can call us on 01724 878100 or email covidresults@enlutc.co.uk

## Why take part

Taking part in testing is voluntary and all students will be able to attend college whether they take part in testing or not.

I am strongly encouraging all students to take part. Testing at home and in college will allow your child and other students to attend college as safely as possible.

## Frequently Asked Questions

## Answers to the most comment questions regarding home testing can be found within the Covid Home Testing area of our website.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding home testing, please contact Jo Wilby or Jen Vincent.

Thank you for your support.

Anesta McCullagh

Principal