



Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School

Green Lane, Dronfield, Derbyshire, S18 2FZ

Tel: 01246 412372 Fax: 01246 412885

admin@dronfield.derbyshire.sch.uk

www.dronfield.derbyshire.sch.uk

Twitter: @DHFSupdate

Success with Care

Headteacher: Mr M. J. Cooper

TDA/mha

19th March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers and Students

I write further to my letter on the 9th of March 2021 about the Asymptomatic Mass Testing Programme for COVID-19.

At the time of writing, we have assisted over 5,300 Lateral Flow Device tests and we have had fewer than 0.04% students testing positive. I would like to thank publicly all the staff who have helped make this possible. Their role has been critical in enabling the safe return of students to school and they have worked tirelessly to support them.

We have received enough home testing kits to give each student 6 tests (2 packs of 3) and these will be distributed next week. We will distribute more as and when they arrive.

Taking the test

The recommendation is that students test themselves twice a week and we suggest **Sunday and Wednesday evenings**.

[Help and support is available](#), including instructions in different languages on how to test and report the results and a [video showing you how to take the test](#).

This does not replace symptomatic testing. If you have symptoms you should self-isolate immediately, book a [PCR test](#) and follow [national guidelines](#).

Support with the test kits

Students aged 18 and over should do the test themselves and report the result, with help if they need it. Students aged 11-17 should do the test themselves with adult supervision. The adult may help the student to take the test if they need support. The adult should help the student report the result.

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 receive an email on Wednesdays and Sundays with a link to submit the result to school. This is a change from my original letter and will allow us to monitor the use of the home tests kits and identify students who may need support to administer them.

If the result is positive, please also ring your child's House Support Manager and do not send your child into school. We will contact your child's close contacts and inform them to self-isolate for 10 days.



In addition, your household needs to self-isolate for 10 days and you should book a PCR test at a local test centre. If the PCR test result is negative, please inform school and your child will be able to return to school and we will be able to allow the close contacts to return also.

If your child is absent on the day the test kits are handed out, please ask them to collect their testing kit from Reception when they are back in school. Alternatively, if they are self-isolating please collect the testing kits from Reception on their behalf.

Thank you again for your continued support with this COVID-19 situation. Together we are helping to keep our community safe! I have ended the letter with some 'frequently asked questions' as provided by the DfE.

Yours Sincerely



Mrs T Davies
Deputy Headteacher

Frequently asked questions from the DfE

What should you do after the test?

If anyone tests **positive you, your household, any support bubbles you are part of** should self-isolate immediately in line with NHS Test and Trace guidance for 10 days.

You need to report your result to both [NHS Test and Trace](#) and your school.

You should [order a confirmatory PCR test](#) if you are testing at home (confirmatory PCR tests are not needed if the test was conducted at School).

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

Negative and void results should be reported to both [NHS Test & Trace](#) and school.

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 on self-isolation and testing](#).

Do I need to give consent?

Students and parents do not give written consent to take part in the home testing programme.

Once you open the kit you should take and report the results of the tests to [NHS Test & Trace](#) regardless of the result (positive, negative, or void). School only needs to know about positive results.

Reporting problems or issues with testing

If there is an issue with the test kit, for example something is missing, please report it by calling **119** and please also tell school.

If an accident or injury happens whilst using the test kit, please seek medical care by calling 111 (or 999 if it is an emergency). Please also report what happened using this website: <https://coronavirus-yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk/>

What type of tests will be used?

We will be sending home Lateral Flow Device (LFD) tests. They are a fast and simple way to test people who do not have symptoms of COVID-19, but who may still be spreading the virus.

The tests are easy to use and give results in 30 minutes.

Further information: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/understanding-lateral-flow-antigen-testing-for-people-without-symptoms>

Are LFD tests accurate?

Lateral Flow Devices identify people who are likely to be infectious. These individuals tend to spread the virus to many people and so identifying them through this test is important.

These tests have been widely and successfully used to detect COVID-19 in asymptomatic individuals and are approved by the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA). The speed and convenience of the tests supports the detection of the virus in asymptomatic individuals, who would not otherwise have got tested.

The tests are highly specific, with low chance of false positives. They are also very sensitive and are able to identify the majority of the most infectious yet asymptomatic individuals. Extensive evaluation has been carried out on the tests and it shows that they are both accurate and sensitive enough to be used in the community for screening and surveillance purposes.

It is important to remember that these tests are only an aid to help stop the spread of the virus and you should continue to follow other guidance such as on wearing face coverings and social distancing.

How are LFD tests different to PCR tests?

There are 2 main types of test to check if you have coronavirus:

- polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests check for the genetic material (RNA) of the virus in the sample - you send the sample for processing at a lab
- lateral flow device (LFD) tests detect proteins called 'antigens' produced by the virus - they give rapid results within 30 minutes

What does it mean if I have a positive result?

If you have a positive antigen LFD test result 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 need to report your result to both [NHS Test & Trace](#) and school.

You should order a confirmatory PCR test if you are testing at home (confirmatory PCR tests are not needed if the test was conducted at school).

You can [book a test here](#).

What does it mean if I have a negative result?

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.

What if I have a void result?

If the result of the test is unclear (void), you should take another one. If the next test is also void, you should take a PCR test. You can [book a test here](#).

All test results need to be reported to both [NHS Test & Trace](#) and school.

Do I need to send the test to a lab?

No. The LFDs supplied do not need to be sent to a laboratory to get a result and can give a quick result in around 30 minutes. Guidance on self-testing is contained in the 'Instructions for Use' leaflet, which comes with the test kit. There is also a useful video to show you how to administer the test.

How do you report the result?

Once you have taken the test, you will need to report the result online (whether it is positive, negative or void) using this [service](#). You also need to tell school if the test result is positive. You will receive a text or email from NHS Test & Trace confirming that you have reported your test result.

All test results need to be reported to [NHS Test & Trace](#) and positive results need to be reported to school by emailing the House Support Manager.

Can someone else in my household use a test kit sent home from school?

No, however whole families and households with primary school, secondary school, and college age children, including childcare and support bubbles, will be able to test themselves twice every week from home. This testing can be accessed through the following channels:

- get a rapid test at work, through workplace testing. Ask your employer for more information
- attend a test site to get tested where you will be able to see how to take the test or pick up tests to do at home (you can find your nearest test site via the postcode checker www.gov.uk/find-covid-19-lateral-flow-test-site or check your local council website)
- collect tests to do at home, find your nearest collection site [COVID Test Finder \(test-and-trace.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/covid-19/test-and-trace)

If these options are not possible, there will be a supply of rapid tests for order online for people who need them the most. More information can be found on www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests

There is [more information available about testing for households and bubbles of students](#).

How will personal information and test results be shared?

To report your result, you will need to share some information about yourself, so that your test result can be traced.

You need to tell the Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC):

- your name
- your test result
- the reference number on the test Kit

You will also need to tell your school of your test result if it is positive.

Under UK law, your school can collect and store test result data because it is in the 'public interest'.

Schools and colleges will only share information with the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) if the test kits used are found to be faulty. If this happens, DHSC will use our information to contact people who used the faulty tests, so that they can be tested again.

When you report test results online, you are sharing information with DHSC. They will share it with your GP, local government, NHS, and Public Health England. This is so that they can offer you health services and guidance if you need to self-isolate. They might also use your data anonymously (without your name or contact information) to research COVID-19 and improve our understanding of the virus.