



15 March 2021

NHS Test and Trace: COVID-19 Testing for Students

Dear Parents and Carers

The Department for Education has recently announced that it will start a programme of asymptomatic home Covid-19 testing in secondary schools, followed by home testing.

Transition to home testing

Where parents have consented and students have taken 3 on site LFD tests, and as per current government guidelines, these students will be able to continue to take the tests at home twice a week every week from 15 March 2021. The students who will now be conducting these tests at home can collect tests from the school's COVID test centre, from Monday 15 March 2021 (session times will be confirmed with students). Students must collect their own kit on designated days:

- Monday 15th March – Years 11, 12, and 13 (home testing days Tuesday and Friday)
- Tuesday 16th March – Years 8 and 9 (home testing days Wednesday and Sunday)
- Wednesday 17th March – Years 7 and 10 (home testing days Thursday and Monday)

Where parents have consented but students have not yet completed the 3 on site tests, their appointments will continue to be scheduled. Staff at school will let students know when the appointments take place. Once all 3 on site tests have been conducted, students will be issued with home test kits.

How the home tests work

Students will be able to collect LFD test kits which enable self-testing from home. Students will conduct the test, before coming into school twice a week. If your child is 11 years old they should be tested by an adult. Children aged 12 – 17 should be supervised by an adult. The LFDs supplied do not require laboratory processing and will provide you with a quick result in around 30 minutes. Comprehensive 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:

[YouTube video](#)

Once the test has been conducted you will log the test result online at:

[Gov.uk / NHS LFD Test Reporting Site](#)

You will also need to inform school of the test result on this link:

[Rooks Heath School Test Reporting Site \(Students\)](#)

You will receive a text/email notification of a positive or negative result from NHS Test & Trace. Tests are free of charge and will be provided by the school.



Consent / Privacy

Once parents and students understand the testing process and read a privacy notice, if they choose to participate, they are committing to self-administer the test and provide their results. Schools should ensure that students provide their results (positive, negative or void) to NHS Test and Trace via the self-report gov.uk page. Results should also be shared with school to support local contact tracing.

Students who decline to participate can still attend school if not symptomatic.

People who decline to participate in this testing programme should follow the usual national guidelines on self-isolation and anyone should get tested if they show symptoms.

We will support our students throughout but let us know if you have any questions. Please use the email address covid@rooksheath.harrow.sch.uk for related queries. Queries may be answered by Mrs Wright (Covid Coordinator) or Ms Soti (Registration Assistant), or other key staff.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Miriam Manderson
Headteacher

