

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) about asymptomatic testing in schools

The following is a list of FAQ's related to the asymptomatic (symptomless) testing of pupils in schools - please note that the answers to these questions are based on the Government and NHS guidance documents.

	Question	Answer
1	Why is the government expecting schools to coordinate asymptomatic LFD tests on pupils?	Rapid testing using Lateral Flow Devices (LFD) will support the return to face-to-face education by helping to identify people who are infectious but do not have any coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms.
2	When will my child get tested?	Secondary schools have been directed by the Government to offer pupils testing at an on-site testing centre prior to them returning to face to-face teaching. We have set up our testing centre in the 6th Form Centre in line with the strict Government guidance. See Q3 for our full testing schedule.
3	How many times will my child get tested in school?	Students should be tested twice a week, 3-5 days apart. The initial tests will be offered in school and we will give your child home testing kits for subsequent tests. Test 1 will take place before students return to school and following tests will take place once students have returned to school. <i>Please note that students will be given a dedicated time slot to arrive at school for their 1st test.</i>

Date	Test	Return to School
Thurs 4/3	Y12/13	
Fri 5/3	Y11	
Sat 6/3		
Sun 7/3		
Mon 8/3	Y12/13 (test 2) & Y10	Y11, Y12/13
Tues 9/3	Y11 (test 2) & 8WP, 8AK, 8NG	Y10
Wed 10/3	Y9 & 8JT, 8CC	8WP, 8AK, 8NG
Thurs 11/3	Y7	Y9 & 8JT, 8CC
Fri 12/3	Y10 (test 2) & 8WP, 8AK, 8NG (test 2)	Y7
Sat 13/3		
Sun 14/3		
Mon 15/3	Y9 (test 2) & 8JT, 8CC (test 2)	
Tues 16/3	Y7 (test 2)	

4	When can my child return to school	Students can return to face-to-face teaching the
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	for face-to-face teaching?	day after they have had their first test, subject to receiving a negative test result.
5	Will my child have the opportunity to undertake LFD tests after they have had their tests in school?	After the tests in school we will be moving to a home testing system. Tests will be provided by the Government to the school no earlier than w/b 8th March and we will distribute these accordingly.
6	Is it compulsory for pupils to be tested?	The government has stated that 'Testing is voluntary; however, we would encourage everyone to participate in the asymptomatic testing programme to help break transmission links by identifying those who may be carrying the virus unknowingly.' Pupils not undergoing testing should attend school in line with your phased return arrangements. (See Q3)
7	Do parents/carers have to give consent for their child to be tested?	Yes - links to the consent form have been sent out via MyEd. Please return the completed consent form to testing@kingethelbert.kent.sch.uk Students aged 18 or over can give consent for themselves but still need to sign and return a consent form.
8	Is it possible for consent to be given over the phone?	No, we require the consent form to be completed and returned to us following the procedure in Q7.
9	What happens if my child tests positive when tested using the LFD test?	If a student tests positive after their first test then they will need to follow government guidelines and get a PCR test and self isolate at home for 10 days. See here for full guidance: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection If your child tests positive following subsequent on-site tests then they will be asked to isolate in a designated area until a parent/carer can collect them and they should then follow the above government guidelines.
10	What happens if my child tests negative, but has coronavirus symptoms?	If your child has any symptoms of Covid 19 at any point then they should immediately follow the government guidance. The LFD test should not be used in this instance and a PCR test should be booked in order to confirm results. Details are below for booking a test or checking symptoms: https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/
11	How will home testing work?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Both pupils and staff in secondary schools will be supplied with LFD test kits to self-swab and test themselves twice a

		<p>week at home.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils must report their result 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. • Pupils should also share their result, whether void, positive or negative, with their school to help with contact tracing – we will be in contact as to the mechanism to do this in due course. • Pupils aged 18 and over should self-test and report the result, with assistance if needed. • Adolescents should self-test and report with adult
12	What happens if my child tests positive for Covid19 on a home testing kit?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils with a positive LFD test will need to self-isolate in line with current government guidelines • A PCR test will need to be arranged either by booking into a local test centre or ordering a postal test to confirm result • Those with a negative test result can continue to attend school as normal following the protective measures in place on site
13	What happens if someone tests positive for Covid19 in school?	The Government guidance states: '(schools) must send home those people who have been in close contact with the person who has tested positive, advising them all to self-isolate immediately and for the next 10 full days counting from the day after contact with the individual who tested positive.
14	What is meant by the term close contact when talking about COVID19?	<p>The Government states that close contact means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • anyone who lives in the same household as someone with coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms or who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) • anyone who has had any of the following types of contact with someone who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) with a PCR or LFD test: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • face-to-face contact including being coughed on or having a face-to-face conversation within 1 metre • been within 1 metre for 1 minute or longer without face-to-face contact • sexual contacts • been within 2 metres of someone for more than 15 minutes (either as a one-off

		<p>contact, or added up together over one day)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • travelled in the same vehicle or a plane
15	My child has previously tested positive for COVID19 using the PCR test, when should they start to use the LFD tests?	A pupil who tested positive would recommence home testing 90 days after their positive test was taken.