

Lateral Flow Device Testing (LFD) Guidance

As part of the national initiative to use lateral flow device tests to assist with the reopening of schools, we have been asked to undertake three tests on students. The first test will take place before students arrive back in school for the first time after the lockdown period. The second and third tests will take place in the two weeks following the return to school. We are promoting that parents/carers and students engage in this process to help keep students and staff safe. However, please note that testing is not mandatory in order for students to return to school and consent must be given before we can carry out an LFD Test on your child.

LFD (lateral flow device) testing is currently considered to be the best way to quickly detect the presence of the virus in people who may not present with any Covid-19 symptoms (they are asymptomatic) or are infectious (they can transmit Covid-19).

Testing in school is both straightforward and safe. All members of staff administering the testing process have been fully trained and will be wearing appropriate PPE (facemask, gloves, apron and face shield, as necessary). Our school testing site is based in the Learning Village and the testing site, and the zones within it, are thoroughly cleaned between each student.

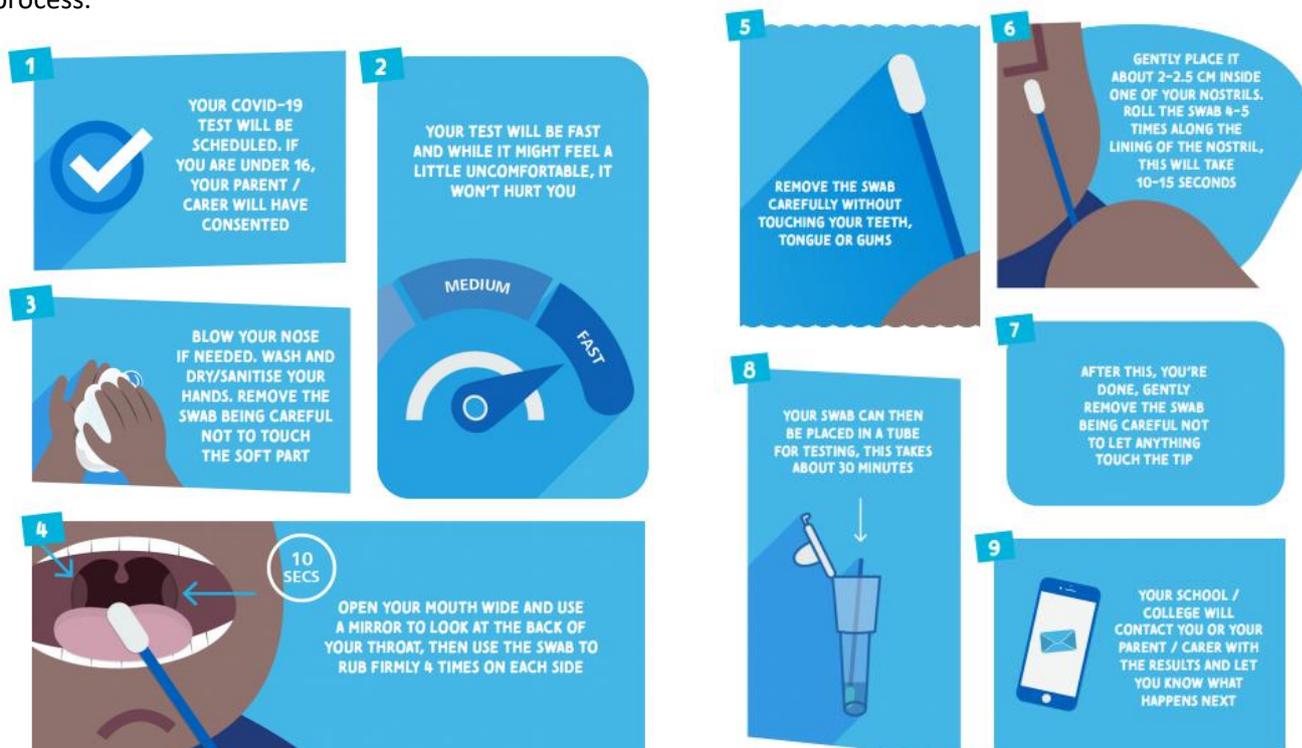
Your child will be registered on the NHS test and trace website using the information that you submitted in your consent form. Please ensure that you read the privacy notice sent with this documentation

What will the testing look like at school?

- Your child should avoid eating or drinking for at least 30 minutes before the test.
- Your child will go to our testing site, based in the Learning Village, when directed and will enter wearing a mask; it is really important that all students have a face mask with them.
- Your child will sanitise their hands and they will be asked to provide their name, form group and date of birth. They will be given stickers with a barcode that will help us to identify their test and a sterile swab in a sealed packet; they will then move to the testing station.

How will the test be carried out?

Your child will be supervised at all times by a member of staff and whilst this is a self-swab test, there will be a testing helper who will oversee things and provide help, guidance and reassurance where needed. You may want to share the information below if your child is worried about the process:

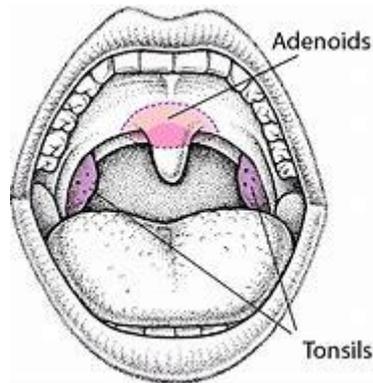


The following video may also help you and your child understand the whole process. This video was made for people who need to take a LFD test and it explains exactly what the process involves;

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9XR8RZxKNo&feature=emb_title

How can I help my child before the test?

At home, you can help your child practice to locate their tonsils/tonsils area. You can do this by using a mirror. To identify the tonsil area, please look at the diagram provided below. Ask your child to follow one of the arches at the back of their throat from the centre to the side of their mouth and look for an egg-shaped mass, just behind, and at the bottom of the left (or right arch), at the side of the throat.



The swab may make your child to gag or retch and it is entirely normal and expected. In fact, this can actually be a sign that they are swabbing the correct area and it will happen to probably all of us.