

18 March 2021

Dear Students

NHS Test and Trace – Covid 19 Home Testing for students

We would like to thank our students who have taken part and completed their first two lateral flow tests on site. Next week we move to the third and final test on site and at this point we will be providing students with home testing kits, for use before they return to College after the Easter Break.

Taking part in this testing process is voluntary but we would strongly urge you to take part. Testing is important because you could be carrying the virus without knowing it and may spread it to others. Testing all students without symptoms will help keep our College a Covid safe environment and enable us to continue with face to face teaching.

Collection of test kits

Students will be able to collect their home test kits from the test centre next week (week commencing 22 March 2021) when they arrive to take their third on site test.

We will provide students with two boxes (each containing three test kits) plus a separate leaflet on how to take the test and how report the results. You are required to report the results of your tests to NHS Test and Trace online or by phone every time you take a test, even if the result was negative or void, and we also require you to report the results to the College.

Please note that the boxes of tests are bar coded and for the use of the student they were allocated to **ONLY**. Family members or friends requiring a test should use a local testing centre, order a test on line or if applicable request one from their employer.

If you are not able to collect your test kit before the start of the Easter break, we will arrange for this to happen on your first day back.

Taking the test

Once term starts again, students need to take two tests a week, every week. Ideally this should be done just before they leave home for College and on the first and third day of their college week. Help and support is available by watching the this video <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvaBZskxS7tzQYIVg7lwH5uxAD9UrSzGJ>

Positive Results

If your test is positive please try not to worry. It is essential you self-isolate immediately for 10 days, in line with NHS Test and Trace guidance. You should report your result to both the College by <https://forms.gle/PC4nHyU5Pqmsf7s97> and also to NHS Test and Trace <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>

You should also order a confirmatory PCR test <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

Negative and Void Results

Negative and void results should also be reported to the college and NHS Test and Trace as above.

Reporting problems or issues with the test kits

If there is an issue with the test kit, for example swab breaking in the mouth, something missing from the test etc, please telephone 119 for help and advice.

If for any reason you need to seek medical care you should telephone 111, or in an emergency dial 999.

Thank you for your co-operation in the testing programme, it really is appreciated and together we can help keep our College a safe place to study and work.

Yours faithfully



Michelle Brabner
Principal CEO