

Student Comms re Home Testing

Dear student,

We hope you're settling back into life on campus and enjoying spending time with your teachers and classmates again. It's great to have you back where we can fully support you to succeed.

We're working hard to keep you safe, so please remember to **wear a face covering** wherever you are on campus, keep your distance from others and follow all of the safety reminders in place.

As you know, we've been busy testing students and staff on campus since we reopened, to help identify anyone who may be carrying the Covid-19 virus without any symptoms and help stop the spread across our college.

We're now able to offer students home testing kits. This means you can test yourself quickly and easily at home, twice each week and report your results back to us and the NHS online. To be able to take part in home testing, you'll need to have had **at least one test on campus** over the past few weeks. Further information and FAQs are below.

What is home testing?

Home testing means you test yourself for Covid-19 and report your results to the College and to the NHS. The College will provide you with a kit which comes with everything you need to do this and a full set of instructions. The kits use Lateral Flow Devices, which give you your results in 30 minutes.

How can I collect a home test kit?

Home test kits are available from the test centre on campus during its opening hours. All information and Test Centre opening times are available on eME.

If you are taking part in home testing, please read our Privacy Notice [here](#).

Can my family also use the tests in the home test kit?

Test kits provided by the College are for your use only and **not** the remainder of your household. However, other members of your household or support bubble can access tests through a local test collection point, or by ordering a home test kit online. [Find your nearest home test kit collection point](#).

How do I take the test?

Taking the test yourself at home is really simple to do and should only take a few minutes to complete, but you should wait 30 minutes before reading your results. Instructions will be included in all test kits and you can watch the video below, which guides you through the process.

[COVID-19 Lateral Flow Test demonstration for school pupils - YouTube](#)

How do I get my results?

Your test will tell you your result after 30 minutes.

- If your result is negative you can continue to attend College, following all of the health and safety guidance in place.
- If your result is positive, you and your household will be required to self-isolate following NHS guidance.

What do I do after I receive my result?

After each test you will need to report your results to both the College and the NHS within 24 hours, even if the test was negative or void. This is a really important requirement of the testing programme.

Step 1: Report it to the NHS

You can report it online at <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result> or by calling the phone number included in your test kit. The College will **not** be notified when you do this.

Step 2: Report it to the College

It is also really important that you let the College know your results too. You should do this whether your results are positive, negative, or void. This is something we are required to do and will help us to track cases in our college and let any close contacts know (anonymously), so they can self-isolate.

To do this, please use the reporting form below. It might be a good idea to save this link in your phone so you can always access it after you've taken a test.

www.lewisham.ac.uk/ncghometestform

What if I have any issues taking the test?

The tests are completely safe to use and you should not have any issues using them at home. If you do have any issues that you feel should be reported (such as multiple void tests or damaged test tubes) you can let us know by [contacting us](#).

Best wishes

Lewisham College