

Learning for life

The Park College
Bishops House
5 Kennington Park Place
London SE11 4AS

Dear All,

Further to previous letters and The Government announcing that all secondary and college aged students will be offered tests to make the return to school/college safer for everyone, we are sending home testing kits. Up to one in three people who have COVID-19 can spread the virus without knowing. This Is because they have no symptoms. To reduce the spread of the virus, we need to identify those individuals. We can do this in college by carrying out tests at home twice every week, 3-4 days apart.

Tests are free of charge. Students will receive 2 packs of 3 tests in a box with a leaflet on how to take the test and report the results.

Taking the test

Students should take the test, before coming into college twice a week on Monday and Thursday. Make sure you have enough time to do the test before going to college. Preferably this would be in the morning before going into college. However, we understand that for some students this may be challenging. Therefore, tests can be taken the evening before college if needed. You need to report test results of each test to the NHS and to the college by following the link below.

We will give students a leaflet with instructions on how to do the test with the kit. There is also a useful video to show you how to take the test here. Students have been used to taking the test at college at it is very similar.

<u>Help and support is available</u>, including instructions in different languages on how to test and report the results.

There is no need to keep used test equipment after the test result has been reported. You can put it in your normal bin (household waste).

This does not replace symptomatic testing. If you have symptoms, you should self-isolate immediately, book a PCR test and follow national guidelines.

What should you do after the test?

If anyone tests **positive you, your household, any support bubbles you are part of** should self-isolate immediately in line with NHS Test and Trace guidance for 10 days.

You need to report your result to both NHS Test and Trace and to college.











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You should <u>order a confirmatory PCR test</u> if you are testing at home (confirmatory PCR tests are not needed if the test was conducted at the Asymptomatic Test Site at School/college).

If the result of the test is **unclear (void)** you should do another test.

Negative and void results should be reported to both NHS Test & Trace and to college.

A negative result does not guarantee that you are not carrying the virus. So, you should continue to follow social distancing, and other measures to reduce transmission such as wearing a face mask and regularly washing your hands and observing social distancing.

If you or anyone in your household gets symptoms of the virus you should follow national guidelines on self-isolation and testing.

You need to report each test result

The result of each test needs to be reported using the NHS Test & Trace self-report website: https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result.

You will also need to tell the college the result of each test by going to this link:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=QutFECwftkGOatrhqObzeJIxXB6EkatMiJ7 V0NmGDhUQTA3SDITTVAwRFI1N1ISSUNCU0YyOFAxWCQIQCN0PWcu

Why take part

Taking part in testing is voluntary and all students will be able to attend college whether they take part in testing or not. I am strongly encouraging all students to take part. Testing at home will allow all students to attend college as safely as possible. Please contact me, if you have any questions or concerns about home testing.

Thank you for your support.

Catriona Guyler-Kone





