



LATERAL FLOW TESTING - INFORMATION GUIDE

NHS Test and Trace: COVID-19 testing for staff and students

You may have heard that in addition to testing at home over the summer, all secondary students returning to school in September 2021 will be offered two onsite tests, 3-5 days apart. The test kits used will be 'Orient Gene – Lateral Flow Devices'. This guide is to help give you more information about the testing programme at Chase Terrace Academy.

Up to one third of people who have coronavirus are asymptomatic. By testing we will help to reduce the spread within our community through asymptomatic transmission. Testing at Chase Terrace Academy will be on a voluntary basis and we will not prevent any student from accessing school if they do not wish to be tested.

What do I have to do so my child can be tested?

Parents/carers must provide consent for their child to be tested. We will be unable to test your child unless the consent form is completed. This has been e-mailed to parents/carers of year 7 students (currently year 6) and via My Ed App for students who will be in years 8-13 from September. The consent form will also be used to register your child's test result for you to receive a text/email notification from the online NHS system.

How the tests work

Those taking the test will be supervised by trained staff and/or volunteers. Orient Gene test kits will be used which are quick and easy to undertake, using a swab of the nose only. Results take around half an hour from testing.

Chase Terrace Academy will inform the student or member of staff of a positive test result immediately. Where participants are under 16, parents or legal guardians will also be informed immediately. A text/email notification of a positive or negative result will also be received from the online NHS system, providing the registration process is completed after the test. Please note this may take up to 10 hours to arrive.

Participants will be informed of this process on arrival to the testing centre. Tests are free of charge.

What if my child tests positive?

Staff or students with a positive LFD test result must self-isolate in line with the stay-at-home guidance. They will also need to arrange a lab-based polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test to confirm the result.

If the PCR test is taken within 2 days of the positive lateral flow test, and is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD test and the student can return to school, as long as the individual doesn't have COVID-19 symptoms.

What happens if the test is negative?

While a small number of students may need to repeat the test if the first test was invalid or void for some reason, students who test negative will be able to stay in school and resume their activities as normal.

What if staff or students have been in close contact with someone in school who tests positive?

It has been confirmed that from Step 4, close contacts will be identified via NHS Test and Trace and education settings will no longer be expected to undertake contact tracing. As with positive cases in any other setting, NHS Test and Trace will work with the positive case to identify close contacts. Contacts from a school setting will only be traced by NHS Test and Trace where the positive case specifically identifies the individual as being a close contact. This is likely to be a small number of individuals who would be most at risk of contracting COVID-19 due to the nature of the close contact. You may be contacted in exceptional cases to help with identifying close contacts, as currently happens in managing other infectious diseases.

What if my child develops symptoms?

This testing programme at Chase Terrace Academy is for people with no symptoms. If your child develops symptoms at any time (including a high temperature; a new, continuous cough; or a loss or change to their sense of smell or taste) they must immediately self-isolate, and book a PCR test by calling 119 or visiting <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

What happens after the onsite tests?

Chase Terrace Academy promotes home testing and the designated days for this to be completed by staff and students is Sunday and Wednesday evening. We envisage that the Government will continue to promote home testing after the two onsite tests. More information will be shared in September, in line with Government guidance.

We will support our staff and students throughout, but please contact us if you have any questions via e-mail to office@chaseterraceacademy.co.uk.