



HEART OF WORCESTERSHIRE COLLEGE Testing will continue to be part of the Government response to Coronavirus (COVID-19). This is important because you could be asymptomatic and carrying the virus without being aware that you are infectious, and you may spread it to others. However, it is important to note that whilst testing is encouraged it is not mandatory for staff or students.

The asymptomatic lateral flow testing programme does not replace current guidance for those with symptoms or those identified as a close contact of a positive case. Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms, whether they are involved in the lateral flow testing programme or not, should book a free NHS PCR test and follow government self-isolation guidance until the results of their PCR test are known. Testing also does not replace basic preventative measures such as regular handwashing, PPE and social distancing.

We are pleased to be able to signpost students/staff to three different options if they do wish to participate in testing in the twice weekly lateral flow testing programme.

1. Collect a home test kit from a college site

The College has a supply of test kits available for students and these can be collected from nominated points across College as detailed below. The collection sites have been chosen so that we can continue to maintain our 'safety first 'approach and maintain our building by building approach to bubbles.

Please remember to wear a face covering and to maintain social distancing at collection points. Do not open and use these test kits on the College site.

These tests must only be used by the person they are issued to.

You will be issued a separate leaflet 'Your step-by-step guide for COVID-19 self-testing.

*Please note that the leaflet that is contained within the kit you received should not be used

A copy of the correct leaflet is available on the College websites Coronavirus page – Information for Students:

www.howcollege.ac.uk/about/coronavirus-covid-19/information-for-students/

The guide explains how to conduct the test and report the results to the NHS.

Please note that for those learners under 18 they can self-test and report with adult supervision. An adult may conduct the test as necessary.

You are required to report the results of your tests online, or by phone, every time you take a test, even if the result was negative or void.

Test Collection Points

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Peakman – Redditch Advice Centre	9.00am -4.00pm	9.00am -4.00pm	9.00am -4.00pm	9.00am -4.00pm
All Saints Advice Centre	9.00am -4.00pm	9.00am -4.00pm	9.00am -4.00pm	9.00am -4.00pm
St Dunstan's Reception	9.00am -4.00pm	9.00am -4.00pm	9.00am -4.00pm	9.00am -4.00pm
St Andrew's Gill Callen Study Centre	9.00am -4.00pm	9.00am -4.00pm	9.00am -4.00pm	9.00am -4.00pm
Bromsgrove Advice Centre	9.00am -4.00pm	9.00am -4.00pm	9.00am -4.00pm	9.00am -4.00pm
Alliance House	9.00am -4.00pm	9.00am -4.00pm	9.00am -4.00pm	9.00am -4.00pm
Osprey House	9.00am -4.00pm	9.00am -4.00pm	9.00am -4.00pm	9.00am -4.00pm
St Wulstans Study Centre	9.00am -4.00pm	9.00am -4.00pm	9.00am -4.00pm	9.00am -4.00pm
Duckworth			9.00am - 10.00am	
Malvern Reception	9.00am - 11.00am	9.00am - 11.00am	9.00am - 11.00am	9.00am - 11.00am

2. You can access a local authority community test site to book a test

The advantage of this is it will be nearer to your home and enable testing prior to attending the campus, as well as reducing the potential transmission of the virus on public transport.

Below are the links to book these:

Asymptomatic Testing site info: www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20870/coronavirus_ covid-19_symptoms_and_how_to_get_a_test/2344/coronavirus_covid-19_i_do_not_have_ symptoms

Testing sites for over 18 years old:

capublic.worcestershire.gov.uk/COVIDTestBookingPublic/MassTesting.aspx

Pharmacy link for over 16s: www.1centralhealth.co.uk/worcslft

3. Access the new home ordering service

This will allow people to order lateral flow tests online to be delivered to their home (This is free to all families and households with primary, secondary school and college aged children and young people, including childcare and support bubbles.) or to be collected from a specified local collection site.

www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests

Please remember LFD testing should only be used if you are asymptomatic and do not have any of the symptoms of COVID-19.

Attendance on site

It is vital that we minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have COVID-19 symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend College.

IMPORTANT - you must not attend College if you have any symptoms of COVID-19, no matter how mild, or if;

- You suspect that you may be contagious / have one or more COVID-19 symptoms.
- You have had recent contact with someone who has been confirmed as having contracted COVID-19.
- A member of your household (including someone in your support bubble or childcare bubble if you have one) has COVID-19 symptoms.
- You have been contacted by NHS Test and Trace to request that you self-isolate.
- You are required to isolate having recently visited countries outside the 'Common Travel Area'.
- You have had a positive test.

The three main symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- A new and persistent cough
- A high temperature or fever
- Significant loss or change to your sense of smell or taste (anosmia)

You must stay at home, begin isolation, and arrange to have a PCR test as soon as possible to see if you have COVID-19.

Positive result

If you get a positive result, it means you are currently infected with COVID-19 and risk infecting others. When you report your result, you will be provided with further information on the next steps to take.

It is important that you take a PCR test to confirm a positive LFT result. This can be via an at home PCR test, or at a local PCR testing site.

We are unable to access this information at college therefore if you do test positive please continue to email: StudentCOV19reporting@howcollege.ac.uk

If you do test positive, you, anyone who lives with you, and anyone in your support bubble, must self-isolate in accordance with current national and local guidance, which can be found at www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment

Void result

If you get a void result, this means that the test has not run correctly. You need to take another test. Use a new test kit, but do not reuse anything from the first kit.

Incidents

If you have any incidents or have a reaction when using this kit, please email: **StudentCOV19enquiries@howcollege.ac.uk**. This is not for seeking immediate medical care. Medical care should be sought through the usual routes of contacting 111 or 999. Further details are contained in the guidance.

Further instructions can be accessed in the you tube clip below:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9XR8RZxKNo&list=PLvaBZskxS7tzQYIVg7lwH5uxAD9UrSzGJ

If you would like to request support or guidance with any aspect of the testing process or ask any questions please email: **StudentCOV19enquiries@howcollege.ac.uk**

Privacy Notice

A copy of the privacy notice is available on the College website - Coronavirus page -Information for Students: www.howcollege.ac.uk/about/coronavirus-covid-19/informationfor-students/