

Home Kits for Lateral Flow Tests

Dear Apprentice

Many people with Covid-19 have mild or even no symptoms but can still spread the virus. With regular self-testing we can slow the spread and protect the most vulnerable in our families and communities. Up until now the College has been doing on-site testing for staff and students that come on to one of our sites; thank you for your help in making this a safe and speedy process. We now need to move away from onsite testing and **start testing at home**. This is not compulsory, but we are asking all students and staff to take part in the home testing so we are able to keep the College site as safe as possible for you to continue your studies.

Relevant to apprentices that come on to one of our sites for training:

We have had a fantastically high response rate to our in-College testing and we hope this will continue with the home testing. You will soon be receiving from College your Covid-19 lateral flow self-testing kit (LFD) which will allow you to take a Covid-19 test at home; each kit contains 3 individual tests and we suggest that you complete a test twice a week, ideally before attending College. Starting from Monday 22nd, your lecturer will take you down to the testing centre to pick up your kit. Please take two boxes – this will give you 6 tests, enough to get you through to the Easter break.

If you need more testing kits just let your lecturer know. You can also order from your local community testing site for anyone over the age of 18. [Find your nearest home test kit collection point](#).

It's very important that you read and follow the step by step instructions included with the test kit – to make this as simple as possible, here is a link to the NHS "how to" video <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvaBZskxS7tzQYIVg7lwH5uxAD9UrSzGJ> . Once you have done one test, it's easy to repeat. Each test will take around 15 minutes to set up and then 30 minutes for the results to be ready. If you would like to use the home test but are worried you won't be able to do so, speak to your employability coach.

All self-testing results, including those that are negative or invalid should be reported **to the College and to the NHS** to allow them to monitor the spread of the virus and for us to make sure we prevent any outbreak on the College site. Each time you do a test, just report using the two links below, you must do **both**:

1. Report your result to the College

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/DesignPage.aspx?fragment=FormId%3DJjyPPym580-nQUQJKG6wb0gkkoWhwopBqLdyO1r3jEdUN0dGT0tXRzBKSDJOR0pZWVRLMIUxTIZCUy4u>

2. Report your result to the NHS

To report the results to the NHS you will need a QR code reader or you can report the results directly on the website <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>

Alternatively, results can also be reported to the NHS by telephone using the 119 service (lines are open 7am – 11pm)

When reporting to the NHS online the following guidance will support you:

- You have an option to register an account or continue without an account
- When requested, enter the name of the College or the postcode: enter North Warwickshire and South Leicestershire College or the post code for our Nuneaton Campus CV11 6BH (this postcode should be used for all college sites)
- You will then be asked to enter and re confirm the test strip ID number – this can be located on the testing device
- The next section will request information such as your name, date of birth and further information that best describes your ethnic background
- And finally, in order to receive confirmation of your recorded result you will need to enter your address, telephone number and email.

You will receive a confirmation of your result via text or email directly from the NHS.

Positive Results

If you get a **positive test result** you and your household will need to **self-isolate** in line with the stay-at-home guidance. This is for ten days after your symptoms started, or from when you took the test if you do not have symptoms. You can learn remotely during this period, unless you are not well enough to do so. Please do not come on to site, complete the reporting of your result as outlined and let your lecturer/assessor know.

Government guidance states you should then take a further PCR test from your local community testing centre. You can book this by calling 119 or online at <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the College via enquiries@nwslc.ac.uk or by calling us on 0330 058 3000

We are nearing the end of this difficult period, and by pulling together as a College community we can make sure we stay safe until the pandemic is over.

Thank you for your on-going support.

Katy

Katy Urwin
Director for Apprenticeships