

Kirklees College Reopening – March 2021

When will students need to start being tested?

Kirklees College is inviting students to be tested during the next few weeks in a phased way, starting with priority groups in both young people and apprenticeships.

Students will take three lateral flow device (LFD) tests, the first of which will happen prior to students coming back to studying in college with the second test taking place three to five days later and the third test three to five days after that.

After three tests have been taken at a testing centre, students will move to twice-weekly testing at home using home testing kits distributed through college.

We will be inviting as many students into college as possible for their first test w/c 8 March. They will be prioritised with the majority being study programme learners. We will also be sending some of our students to the Hudawi Centre (HD1 6BG) or to the Dewsbury Testing Centre (WF12 8EE). Further details on testing centres can be found [HERE](#).

When will students start returning to college for face to face learning?

We will start inviting students to come back to college to learn from w/c 15 March.

Will students be allowed on-site if they have not had a test?

So we can ensure we are doing all we can to keep everyone in college safe, students who have not attended for testing will not be permitted to enter the classroom until they have received their first negative LFD test.

How does the on-site testing programme work?

For the first three tests, all of which will take place in college or at one of the local community testing centres, students will be supervised by trained staff and volunteers. All students will be expected, wherever possible, to undertake their own swabbing so they are in control of the process and are comfortable with this when the process moves to home testing.

The lateral flow tests are quick and easy to undertake, using a swab of the nose and throat. Results from the lateral flow tests are delivered by email in around half an hour from testing. It is important that students are initially supervised whilst swabbing to make sure they are doing it correctly. This is why testing will initially take place on-site. The college/community testing centre will inform students of their test results.

Tests are free of charge and we will be sending students a leaflet with further information about the testing process.

Please can all students use their Kirklees College email address when registering.

What if a student tests positive?

If a student tests positive on a lateral flow device, they will need to self-isolate for 10 days and follow the guidance from NHS Test and Trace. All other household members will also need to self-isolate in line with [Government guidance](#).

What happens if the test is negative?

If a student has a negative test, they will need to report their result to NHS Track and Trace and attend college as normal.

What if the test result is void?

The student would need to take a second test. If the second test is void, there is a requirement to book a PCR test. Students should not attend college until they have received confirmation of their result from NHS Track and Trace.

What if students have been in close contact with someone in college who tests positive?

The student will be notified that they are a close contact by the college and they will need to self-isolate for 10 days in line with [Government guidance](#).

What if a student develops symptoms?

On-site testing is for people with no symptoms. If a student 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 test by calling 119 or visiting <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

Does a student need to be tested if they have previously tested positive for Covid-19?

The guidance we have received from the Department for Health and Social Care is that those who have tested positive for Covid-19 within the last 90 days **do not** need to participate in LFD testing. In this case they can attend college. We will need to see evidence that the student has previously tested positive. Evidence from students will need to be emailed to missitmissout@kirkleescollege.ac.uk.

How will home testing work?

From w/c 15 March, students will be issued with twice-weekly home testing kits to take place from week commencing 22 March onwards. We will send more details about home testing at a later stage but those who are interested to find out more about what home testing entails may find the [Government's Covid-19 Self-Test video](#), useful in the interim.

Do students have to carry out testing if they have had the vaccine?

Yes, the guidance states that you should continue to test even though you have had the vaccine.

Will all staff be tested?

Yes, all college staff will be tested in the same way as students.

How has this been communicated to students?

Students will be contacted by their tutor and by email to inform them when and where they should have their Covid-19 test and when they are expected to return to face to face learning. Please contact your tutor should you have any questions or email support@kirkleescollege.ac.uk