

14th December 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

Mass Testing for COVID-19

We have been asked to send you this letter below from the Regional Schools Officer regarding mass testing of young people and their families within the borough. Currently we have no information as to where the mobile testing units are based but once we do, we will pass this on to you.

Yours sincerely,



Geoffrey Fowler
Principal & CEO



Test and Trace

14 December 2020

NHS Test and Trace: Covid-19 testing for staff students and family members

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are working to keep our schools and colleges as safe as possible. From today, we are surging additional mobile testing units into your area to complement the existing MTUs, regional test sites, and local test sites. The NHS Test and Trace team will be testing staff, students and their family members who want to participate.

Along with the other measures we are taking, these tests will help reduce the risk of people without symptoms transmitting the virus. The test is voluntary, but I would encourage all staff, students and family members to get tested.

All you need to do to be tested is to arrive at the mobile testing unit and register, alternatively you can book a test by visiting <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

To reach this stage, the test has been tested at Public Health England's research laboratories and is totally safe. Testing is free and provided by NHS Test and Trace.

What if someone tests positive?

If the results of the test is positive, everyone will need to self-isolate. For the person who has a confirmed case of Covid-19, self-isolation will be needed for 10 days, and household members for 14 days. **Please inform us as soon as you receive this test result.**

We will continue to support students with their education remotely. We recognise this may be disruptive for your family, but it is really important to isolate to prevent the spread of the virus. There is more advice on self-isolation at <http://bit.ly/Govukselfisolate>

What if the test is negative?

The household will be able resume their activities as normal. If the student is contacted due to being in close contact with another individual who has tested positive, they may need to take a repeat test, but this will also be voluntary. If they test positive, they will need to self-isolate.

We will support staff and students throughout, but please contact us if you need this information in any other language or format or if you have any questions.

Please see the link to the Q&A: [Testing in North East London, Kent and Essex: your questions answered - Education in the media \(blog.gov.uk\)](#)

Please can you direct any correspondence/queries to RSC.EASTNELONDON@education.gov.uk

Kind regards,

Office of the Regional Schools Commissioner for East of England and North-East London