



Department for Education

This is your email to keep you updated on the government's response to coronavirus (COVID-19). If you have colleagues who would like to receive this email directly, please ask them to use this [subscription form](#).

The content of today's email is relevant for all settings.

COVID-19 LFD test kit inventory survey for secondary schools and colleges

Secondary schools and colleges are invited to participate in a short [test kit inventory survey](#). This will help us better understand total stock levels of home self-test kits, as well as your availability over summer to receive deliveries so that we can ensure you are ready to continue home testing in the autumn term. This information will help forecast test kit demand for continued regular home testing for pupils and staff until the end of September when asymptomatic testing will be reviewed in schools and colleges. Please note that we do not expect staff to attend settings for the sole purpose of receiving test kit deliveries. Your answers do not impact your ability to order test kits using the ordering website.

The survey will only take you a few minutes and we very much welcome your participation by completing the [test kit inventory survey](#) by Tuesday 20 July.

For any queries about this survey, please contact the DfE helpdesk on 0800 046 8687 (8am to 6pm Monday to Friday, 10am to 4pm Saturday and Sunday).

Instructions for use with Orient Gene COVID-19 test kits for secondary schools and colleges

In yesterday's daily email, we provided information on the Orient Gene COVID-19 test kits. The link provided in this information was not for the Orient Gene test kits but is for use with rapid lateral flow (LFD) test kits only. Please ensure you are using the instructions which can now be found on the [document sharing platform](#) and directly [here](#).

We can also clarify that all secondary age students can swab themselves if they are able to under appropriate supervision (this includes 11-year-olds in year 7).

Summer tutoring for school pupils

The [National Tutoring Programme](#) 2020/21 (NTP) is available to access during the summer holidays, either in schools if your school is open and running a summer school, or online at home. There is flexibility with tutoring arrangements, with the option of starting sessions before the end of term and completing over the summer holidays, or alternatively for all sessions to take place during the summer holidays.

Find out how to access summer tutoring with an approved NTP Tuition Partner on the [NTP website](#). You can email partners@nationaltutoring.org.uk if you have any questions.

Proposals set out for exams and assessments in 2022 for schools and colleges

Exams next year are set to recognise and mitigate the disruption to students' education, under proposals on arrangements for 2022 [launched yesterday](#).

The suggested [arrangements for GCSEs, AS and A levels](#) include choices about the topics students will be assessed on for some subjects, and giving schools and colleges advance information about the focus of content of the exams for other subjects.

Ofqual and the Department for Education are also running a consultation on [arrangements for vocational, technical and other general qualifications \(VTQs\)](#).

PHE Advice Service call volumes

The PHE Advice Service, part of the DfE COVID-19 helpline, provides advice to education and childcare settings on the action they should take to respond to positive cases of COVID-19 in their setting. The service is currently experiencing high call volumes and longer call wait times. We would like to apologise for any inconvenience that this may be causing. Calling later in the day may enable us to answer your call more quickly, using option 1, then option 1.

If your call is a general enquiry relating to COVID-19 in your education setting, the DfE COVID-19 helpline is available to answer any questions you may have, in order to speak to an agent please press option 1, then option 3.

The information below has not changed since our last update

Department for Education COVID-19 helpline

The [Department for Education COVID-19 helpline](#) and the PHE Advice Service (option 1) is available to answer any questions you have about COVID-19 relating to education settings and children's social care.

Department for Education guidance

Our guidance to support education providers, local authorities and parents during the COVID-19 pandemic can be accessed using the links below:

- [Guidance for early years and childcare providers](#)
- [Guidance for schools](#)
- [Guidance for further and higher education providers](#)
- [Guidance for local authority children's services](#)
- [Guidance for special schools and other specialist settings](#)

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You will continue to receive this daily email if you have supplied your contact information as part of your formal Department for Education establishment record (for example, in get information about schools) or you are registered as a team leader in the Test and Trace service.

If your contact information is not held formally by us, you can unsubscribe using this [unsubscribe form](#).