

Bridgend County Borough Council

Lateral flow test (LFT) guidance for pupils

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Welsh Government is offering pupils in years 7 to 13 the opportunity to undergo twice-weekly testing using a LFT device.
- 1.2 While this testing is on a voluntary basis, all pupils offered the opportunity are strongly encouraged to take up the offer to further reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19.
- 1.3 The test is a fast and simple way to test individuals who **do not** have symptoms of COVID-19, but who may still be spreading the virus.

2. Pupils included

- 2.1 All pupils in years 7 to 13 are offered the opportunity to have twice-weekly testing.
- 2.2 If you do not wish to participate in the testing, you are still able to attend your school or setting providing you have not come into contact with a positive case, developed symptoms or received a positive COVID-19 test result that you may have had independently.
- 2.3 Always follow the usual national guidelines on self-isolation and arrange a test if you show symptoms of COVID-19.

3. Supplies of tests

- 3.1 Before receiving your testing kits, you need to read the privacy notice, testing instructions, video and waste instructions.
- 3.2 Tests will be provided to you from your school.
- 3.3 When you only have only a week's supply (2 tests) left you should request more from your school.
- 3.4 Your school will record the number of tests it provides to you to ensure that tests are being completed as agreed.
- 3.5 It is important the tests provided to you are **not** used by any members of your family or friends and are only used by you.
- 3.6 Test kits should be stored indoors at room temperature in a dry space.

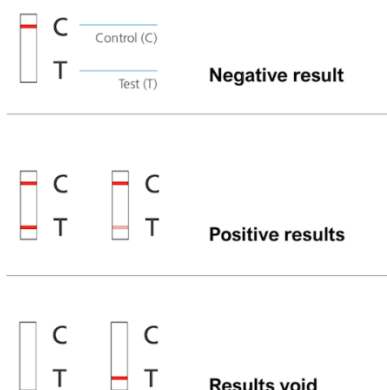
4. Undertaking tests

- 4.1 Do not use a lateral flow test if you have symptoms of COVID-19. In this scenario you must attend a more accurate polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test.
- 4.2 The LFT test kit is a hand-held device with an absorbent pad at one end and a reading window at the other. Inside the device is a strip of test paper that changes colour. Instructions on the use of the LFT is provided with the test kit.
- 4.3 No specific training is required to undertake the tests and full guidance is provided in each box of test kits. In addition, you can access information in relation to the tests, and how to undertake them in the Welsh Government guidance document below:

<https://gov.wales/routine-testing-education-and-childcare-staff-html>

In addition, there are guides provided within your test kits

- 4.4 Prior to undertaking your first test you must fully read the instructions contained within the box.
- 4.5 Do not eat or drink for at least 30 minutes before doing the test.
- 4.6 There are three possible results from a LTF as follows:



Negative result: one line next to C shows the test is negative.

You can continue to attend school as normal but please observe all primary controls within the school or setting eg social distancing, good respiratory and hand hygiene measures etc.

Positive result: two lines, one next to C and one next to T, (even faint lines), shows the test is positive.

In the event of a positive LFT test you must isolate in line with national guidance and arrange a confirmatory PCR test immediately. **It is important that the PCR test is taken within 24 hours of the positive LFT test.**

Void: no lines, or one line next to T, means the test is void. You will need to re-take with a fresh test kit.

- 4.7 You should undertake a test before attending school on Monday and Thursday mornings. This has been determined by Public Health Wales.
- 4.8 You should use the same days and times each week. If you are away from the school/setting for any significant period of time (more than a week) you should cease testing and resume again on the morning your first day back before you attend your school or setting.
- 4.9 If you have symptoms of COVID-19 at any time you **must not** use a lateral flow test to check if you have COVID-19. You must self-isolate and arrange a PCR test immediately.

Tests can be booked online at: [Book a test online \(on GOV.UK\)](#)

To book a test by phone call: **119** between the hours of 7am to 11pm

- 4.10 If you have received a positive PCR test in the last 90 days you should not use a LFT test until 90 days have passed as the results will not be accurate. Ensure your school or setting is aware of this scenario.
- 4.11 You **must** report your test results nationally using the following online portal.

www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result

or telephone

119

with your results if you do not have access to the internet.

- 4.12 Positive, negative and void results must be reported on the online portal
- 4.13 You must also tell your school of a **positive** test result as soon after the result as it is practical to do so.
- 4.14 If your results are positive you must **NOT** attend your school or setting for any reason, but call your school contact to advise them of your positive test result. In the meantime, you must follow the [self-isolation guidance](#) and self-isolate for 10 days, as will all members of your household. This should start immediately from the LFT positive test result.

- 4.15 You must also arrange a PCR test immediately. **This test should be taken within 24 hours of the LFD test.** You can arrange a test by booking [online](#) or by calling 119.
- 4.16 You must isolate immediately together with all members of your household.
- 4.17 If your test result is negative, you can attend your school or setting as normal.
- 4.18 Regardless of the test result, once your test is complete, put all of the used test kit contents in the waste bag provided. Seal the bag and keep this in a safe place for 72 hours. After this time dispose of the bag in your general household waste.
- 4.19 If following a confirmatory PCR test your results are negative, you must contact your school and continue to self-isolate. Your school will communicate your results to the contact tracing team who will determine if you and your close contacts are free to return to school. **Do NOT return to school until you are told you can do so.**
- 4.20 If you do not take up a follow up PCR test you and all your close contacts will be required to self-isolate for 10 days. You should also **NOT** take further LFT tests for a period of 90 days. If new symptoms develop in this period, you should arrange a **PCR test**.