



University Technical College Warrington,  
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**Principal & Chief Executive:** Mr L M Barber

17<sup>th</sup> March, 2021

## COVID 19 Home testing – Procedures and protocols

Dear Parent/Carer,

I would like to thank you for your support and commend the students for their attitude towards onsite testing since our return to college and I am now writing to you to explain the transition to home testing which will commence next week.

[The Government has recently announced that](#) all secondary and college aged students will be offered tests to make the return to college safer for everyone.

Up to one in three people who have COVID-19 can spread the virus without knowing. This is because they have no symptoms. To reduce the spread of the virus, we need to identify those individuals. We can do this as a college by asking students to carry out tests at home twice every week, 3-4 days apart.

### Testing students at home

Students will be given home test kits weekly on a Thursday afternoon for the following week and will be asked to sign on collection.

Tests are free of charge. Students will receive a pack of 3 tests in a box with a leaflet on how to take the test and report the results.

### Taking the test

We would like students to take their tests before school on a **Monday and Thursday**.

Please make sure you have enough time to do the test before going to college.

Preferably this would be in the morning before going into college. However, we understand that for some people this may be challenging. Therefore, tests can be taken the evening before college if needed. You then need to report test results.

Also enclosed with this letter is a leaflet with instructions on how to do the test with the kit. There is also a useful video to show you how to take the test [here](#).

[Help and support is available](#), including instructions in different languages on how to test and report the results and a video showing you how to take the test.



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There is no need to keep used test equipment after the test result has been reported. You can put it in your normal bin (household waste).

This does not replace symptomatic testing. If you have symptoms, you should self-isolate immediately, book a PCR test and follow national guidelines.

### Reporting results

The result of each test needs to be reported using the NHS Test & Trace self-report website: <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>.

You will also need to inform the college of each test result regardless of the outcome. (Positive/negative or void).

Please email [studentcovidtest@utcw.co.uk](mailto:studentcovidtest@utcw.co.uk) prior to your son/daughters arrival at college with:

**Student name:**

**Year group:**

**Test barcode:**

**Result:**

### What should you do after the test?

If anyone tests **positive you, your household, any support bubbles you are part of** should self-isolate immediately in line with NHS Test and Trace guidance for 10 days.

You need to report your result to both [NHS Test and Trace](#) and your college preferably by phone call.

You should [order a confirmatory PCR test](#) if you are testing at home (confirmatory PCR tests are not needed if the test was conducted at the Asymptomatic Test Site at School/college).

If the result of the test is **unclear (void)** you should do another test.

**Negative and void results** should be reported to both [NHS Test & Trace](#) and to the college.



A SCIENCE & ENGINEERING ACADEMY  
& SIXTH FORM

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A negative result does not guarantee that you are not carrying the virus. So, you should continue to follow social distancing, and other measures to reduce transmission such as wearing a face mask and regularly washing your hands and observing social distancing.

If you or anyone in your household gets symptoms of the virus you should follow [national guidelines on self-isolation and testing](#).

### Why take part

Taking part in testing is voluntary and all students will be able to attend college whether they take part in testing or not.

I am strongly encouraging all students to take part. Testing at home will allow your child and other students to attend college as safely as possible.

Please contact the college directly by emailing [parentenquiries@utcw.co.uk](mailto:parentenquiries@utcw.co.uk), if you have any questions or concerns about home testing.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

Amanda Downing  
Associate Principal  
**UTC Warrington**

**INSPIRING**  
TECHNICAL CAREERS



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