

Rapid Testing

Luton Borough Council are offering rapid Coronavirus testing at Farley Hill Community Centre. The centre is open 8am -8pm. Luton along with 90 other local authorities are running a pilot to roll out rapid testing in the form of Lateral Flow Tests. These tests provide results in 30-60 minutes and do not need to be sent to a laboratory. Public Health believe this is another test offering that could be helpful in terms of our wider Luton testing strategy. Rapid testing is much faster than standard testing, and can be used to increase the number of people who are tested to try and find 'invisible' ('asymptomatic') cases to reduce the spread of virus in our communities

Frequently asked questions

Why offer rapid testing at this time?

By offering rapid testing before term starts, we have an opportunity to break transmission of the virus by preventing staff who are not displaying symptoms returning to work and stopping outbreaks before they start. This will also enable employers to make staffing continuity arrangements in advance. We encourage all school catering staff to get a test to avoid (as far as possible) the need to close down a whole kitchen when someone tests positive for Coronavirus.

Who can get a rapid test?

Rapid testing is aimed at people who have no Covid-19 symptoms, as this will help us to identify cases of coronavirus that would otherwise be missed.

Can my household also get a test?

Rapid testing is available for anyone who lives, works or studies in Luton. We would encourage you to also bring those who live with you to also get a test.

What if I do have symptoms?

If you do have symptoms (such as a persistent cough, high temperature, loss of taste/smell or breathing difficulties) you should self-isolate, and you should arrange to have a standard Covid-19 test via www.nhs.uk/coronavirus or call 119 if you do not have internet access.

Do I have to take a rapid test?

No, the testing is voluntary.

Do I have to book in advance?

No, the testing will be walk up and your details registered when you arrive. The test should take about 10 minutes to administer. You will be able to administer the test yourself, however a trained team will be on site to show you how to do this and answer any questions.

When will I get my result?

We aim to have test results in 30 minutes to pass those results on to you in around 45 minutes to an hour. You do not need to wait on site for the result, once the test is

completed you can leave. You will receive a text message and/or an email with your result and a brief explanation of what you should do next.

Do I need to bring anything with me?

It will be very helpful if you have a mobile phone with then that has a QR reader installed, as this will speed up the results process.

What do I do if I get a negative result?

This means that the test did not detect that you had Coronavirus on the day you were tested.

You could still go on and be infectious with coronavirus on another day, or it is possible the test did not detect that you had coronavirus if you were at an early stage of infection.

This means it is really important you must still follow government guidance and not do anything differently, remember: Hands - Face - Space and you are not allowed to meet with people you do not live with (apart from a support bubble) in any indoor setting.

If at any point in the future you develop Covid-19 symptoms (a continuous cough, high temperature or loss of or change to your sense of smell or taste) you should self-isolate and book a standard Covid-19 test online at www.nhs.uk/coronavirus or call 119 if you do not have internet access. People who you live with must also self-isolate for 14 days.

What do I do if I get a positive result?

This means that the test detected coronavirus in your body on the day of your test.

It is very important that you now:

- o Book a home test kit for a standard Covid-19 test as you would do if you had symptoms. This will confirm your rapid test result. o You can book a home test kit online at www.nhs.uk/coronavirus or call 119
- o You must self-isolate for 10 days, this means stay at home, you must not go out to work, school or public places or go out to get food and medicine
- o You MUST inform your employer that you have received a positive result
 - Anyone who lives with you must self-isolate for 14 days because it can take this long for symptoms to develop after exposure
 - If your standard (laboratory) test is positive, NHS Test and Trace will contact you to identify people you may have been in contact so that they can alert other people who may need to self-isolate
 - If you do have any other support you can access and need help while self-isolating please view our coronavirus support online at www.luton.gov.uk/self-isolation-support or call 01582 548955. You may also be eligible for financial support for more details view our website at www.luton.gov.uk/coronavirus

· You and the people you live with can stop self-isolating if the test result of your standard Covid-19 home test kit is negative

For more details on government guidance visit www.gov.uk/coronavirus

Who will my results be shared with?

Your result will only be shared with you, therefore it is your responsibility to inform your employer if you receive a positive result.