



Staff Testing Guidance for COVID-19

To access our latest guidance and information, visit <https://www.some.ox.ac.uk/covid19-hub/>
If you have any questions or queries about testing, speak to your line manager in the first instance,
consult the NHS on <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Who should get tested?

You should try to get a test if you have any of the three primary symptoms of coronavirus (a new continuous cough, a fever, or a sudden loss of or change to your sense of smell and taste), or if you are advised to by Public Health England. You do not need to self-isolate and get tested as soon as someone you are working with develops symptoms - only if they then go on to test positive. Your individual circumstances and health can also affect the decision to get a test, so if you are unsure speak to your line manager or consult NHS guidance on <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>.

How can I get a test?

As a member of university staff, you can book a test by booking one with your Single Sign On at <https://www.ox.ac.uk/coronavirus/health/covid-testing>. You can also book through the NHS at <https://bit.ly/2HCnxGH>.

What happens while I am waiting to get tested and receive my results?

You and all the members of your household must begin to self-isolate once you have booked a test. Inform your line manager straight away that you need to self-isolate. While you are away, you will continue to receive full pay – even if you are unable to work from home.

What happens if I test negative?

You will no longer need to self-isolate, unless one of the following applies:

- *You have had close contact with a confirmed positive case or someone awaiting the result of a Covid-19 test:* you will still need to self-isolate for a full 14 days even if you have tested negative. If your exposure to the confirmed case was less than 5 days before the test, EAS will advise you to book a repeat test because of the risk of a false negative result.
- *You continue to have a fever, cough, or loss of smell:* you (but not your household) must self-isolate until you are better. If you have diarrhoea or vomiting, you must self-isolate until you have been well for 48 hours.
- *You are in self-isolation because you have recently returned from overseas:* you will need to stay in isolation until the end of the required period

What does 'close contact' mean?

Close contact with someone has a specific meaning in relation to coronavirus. Close contact is defined as:

- Being within 2 metres of someone for more than 15 mins
- Being within 1 metre of someone for more than a minute without face-to-face contact
- Having a face-to-face conversation with somebody within 1 metre
- Having skin-to-skin physical contact with somebody
- Being coughed on by someone
- Being a sexual partner of someone

What happens if I test positive?

If you test positive, you will need to self-isolate for 10 days from the date of your positive test. Your household will also need to self-isolate for 14 days. Full details can be found at <https://bit.ly/3nbwl1o>. If you were tested by someone other than the University Early Alert service (e.g. via the national NHS service), you must complete the form for reporting external coronavirus positive results found at <https://www.ox.ac.uk/coronavirus/health/covid-testing>. Continue to self-isolate, and update your line manager about your situation so that we can support you.

Download the NHS Covid App

There is now an NHS Track and Trace QR code at the entrance to college. Scanning this on your smartphone using the NHS Covid-19 app will help to protect you and those around you and assist us with our legal requirement to keep track of who is on site for NHS Test and Trace.

