

# UNIVERSITY – TESTING FOR COVID-19 EARLY ALERT SERVICE

## WHEN TO GET TESTED

If you have any of the [symptoms of COVID-19](#) or have received a positive Lateral Flow Device (LFD) test result, stay at home, book a PCR test immediately and notify your department and/or college Single Point of Contact.



If you have been advised you are a close contact of, or a member of the same household as, someone who has a PCR-confirmed case of COVID-19, take a PCR test within 5 days of being informed. This includes staff and students who have been fully vaccinated but not those who have had a positive PCR test result in the last 90 days.

## WHEN TO SELF-ISOLATE\*

If you have symptoms or have received a positive LFD test you must self-isolate immediately. Please see the NHS website for further information on [when to self-isolate](#). If you are a close contact of someone who has a PCR-confirmed case of COVID-19 (including a household member), see below.



## BOOK A COVID-19 TEST \*\*

Book a University PCR test via [www.ox.ac.uk/covid-testing](http://www.ox.ac.uk/covid-testing) (SSO required).



## REPORT ABSENCE TO YOUR COLLEGE/DEPARTMENT

Report your absence in the normal manner.



## TAKE PCR TEST

### NEGATIVE\*

You may return to your normal way of life as long as you are not self-isolating due to close contact (see below) or quarantine (in which case you must complete the 10 days regardless, unless you have used the [‘Test to Release’ scheme](#)), and any fever, vomiting or diarrhoea has stopped. Please inform your college and department if you still need to self-isolate.

### POSITIVE

If the result is positive, your department and/or college Single Point of Contact will receive a copy of your confirmation email. At this point your close contacts (including any household members) will also need to book a PCR test within 5 days of being informed. You should follow these steps:

### SELF-ISOLATE

You should follow [government self-isolation guidelines](#), and should always self-isolate for longer if your temperature has not returned to normal.

### CONTACT TRACING

Public health staff will contact you to initiate contact tracing. Please be as helpful as possible, as a rapid response helps to minimise risks to others. You are also strongly encouraged to alert any recent close contacts directly yourself (or via your college or department).

\*Close contacts and self-isolation: The rules on [self-isolating for contacts of people with confirmed cases of COVID-19](#) (including if you are a household member of someone with COVID-19) changed from 16 August. Certain exemptions now apply, for example, people who are fully vaccinated, and those below the age of 18 years 6 months.

\*\*If you are unable to access the University service, and receive a test via the NHS or another route, you must report your result, positive or negative, by using the **Report a Test** button on the [University's COVID testing page](#). If the result is positive, continue to self-isolate, and report your absence to your department and college so they can take any relevant actions to minimise the risk to others.