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 (SSO required).

REPORT ABSENCE TO YOUR COLLEGE/DEPARTMENT
Report your absence in the normal manner.

TAKE PCR TEST
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).

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.

*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.