

Questions and Answers for Lateral Flow Testing

I have had a positive Covid test in the past. Can I still participate in the lateral Flow Testing (LFT) scheme?

Any staff member who has had a positive PCR test, should **NOT** undertake repeat testing (including with LFT) for 90 days **UNLESS** new symptoms develop.

I have recently had a vaccine. Do I take a LFT?

Yes, vaccinated staff can still participate in the programme. There is no evidence to suggest vaccination will affect the test result.

Where should the test be taken?

It is advised that the test is taken at home. The test takes about 30 mins.

When should the test be taken?

It is advised that the test is carried out on the same days every week. The days need to be 3-4 days apart.

I have symptoms of Covid, Can I still work if I have a negative Lateral Flow Test?

No. If you have Covid symptoms stay at home and book a PCR test. Do not go into work regardless of whether you have tested as negative on your Lateral Flow Test.

We are testing on the Sunday. Does the Friday bubble need to isolate if there is a positive LFT?

We asked for clarity on this from Public Health Wales. The direction to the North Wales Authorities is to use 2 clear days rather than 48 hours. Therefore, as it stands, the Friday bubble will need to isolate.

I only come in on a Friday do I need to be testing twice a week?

No, but it is recommended that you do.

Do we isolate on the positive LFT or wait for the PCR result?

Always isolate the bubble on an initial positive LFT.

If settings prefer they can send out the 'holding email' to contacts requesting that they isolate and further information will follow. This allows time for a PCR test to be taken and the result becoming available. Spreadsheets and Public Health Wales isolation letters can be sent on receipt of the PCR result, if positive.

Who is a contact?

A contact is a person who has been close to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. You can be a contact anytime from 2 days before the person who tested positive developed their symptoms, and up to 10 days after, as this is when they can pass the infection on to others. A risk assessment may be undertaken to determine this, but a contact can be:

- anyone who lives in the same household as another person who has tested positive for COVID-19
- anyone who lives in the same household as another person who has symptoms of COVID-19
- anyone who has had any of the following types of contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19:
 - face-to-face contact including being coughed on or having a face-to-face conversation within one metre
 - been within one metre for one minute or longer without face-to-face contact
 - been within 2 metres of someone for more than 15 minutes **(either as a one-off contact, or added up together over one day)**
 - travelled in the same vehicle (exceptions apply)

Isolating contacts

The most infectious period for Covid is the 2 days before Covid symptoms start or 2 days prior to a positive LFT or PCR swab being taken. Any identified contacts in this time are to isolate.

I have had a positive LFT and a negative PCR!

- If the PCR then comes back negative and the staff member is asymptomatic (has no Covid symptoms) then we can release them and their contacts. They will no longer have to isolate.
- If the PCR comes back negative and the staff member is symptomatic with any of the Covid symptoms everyone should remain isolated and a second PCR test 48 hours after the first carried out. If the second PCR is negative then normal activities can be resumed.
- Coronavirus symptoms are:
 - a new continuous cough
 - a high temperature
 - loss of or change to sense of smell or taste (Anosmia)

Positive LFT and positive PCR

Continue to isolate contacts accordingly for 10 days from last contact with positive case. TTP will work out the isolation date for you.

Help! We have 2 voids

The current advice is to undertake a PCR test if you have 2 voids. Void tests are not considered positive or negative tests and assuming no Covid symptoms there is no necessity to isolate.

Who do I contact if the LFT kits have not arrived?

All enquiries about LFT kits should be made to eduandcctesting@gov.wales.

How do I dispose of the used LFT kits?

Advice for safe disposal of lateral flow test waste:

If the test is negative

- Place lateral flow test kit into the domestic waste bag (normally a “black” bag).
- Do not place the test into any recycling waste streams.

If the test is positive

- Place the lateral flow test kit into a secure bag and keep this in a safe place for 72hrs. After this time place in the domestic waste bag (normally a “black bag”)
- Do not place the test into any recycling waste streams.

As a COVID positive individual in self isolation from this point you are required to ensure that waste that has been in direct contact with you is held for 72hrs before entering the domestic waste stream.

Who can help me with isolations in TTP Flintshire?

A TTP Education/Childcare team has being set up and can be contacted by email TTPSchools@flintshire.gov.uk

Use this email address to report positive Lateral Flow Tests.

Further information:

<https://gov.wales/routine-testing-education-and-childcare-staff-html>

<https://gov.wales/operational-guidance-schools-and-settings-support-limited-attendance-html>

<https://gov.wales/getting-tested-coronavirus-covid-19>