



Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership

Pupils will need to take a further 'PCR test' (similar to those done in local and regional testing sites) on the same day (or as soon as possible). Some schools will be able to provide these PCR test kits to perform at home or you can go to www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or call 119 to book a follow-up test. If ordering a PCR test yourselves, you should choose to visit a drive-through test site if possible, as it is faster than requesting a home test.

While you wait for the PCR result (via text/email) you will need to self-isolate. If the PCR test returns a positive result you will have to self-isolate and follow the guidance from NHS Test and Trace.

What happens if the test is negative?

Pupils will be able to stay in school and resume their activities as normal. A pupil will only be told if they test positive on a 'lateral flow' test, so if you do not hear you can assume it was negative. A small number of pupils may need to repeat the test if the first test was invalid or void for some reason.

What if a close contact at school/college tests positive?

A close contact of someone in school who has tested positive for COVID-19 will be able to return to school if they agree to be tested once a day for 7 days and the test is negative. If they do not want to take the test, they will need to self-isolate as per the national guidelines. This does not apply to household members or close contacts outside of school who will still need to self-isolate. Further details will be provided at the time, but if you would prefer to self-isolate instead of doing daily testing, you can.

What if my child develops symptoms?

This testing programme at school is for people with no symptoms. If your child develops symptoms at any time (such as a high temperature; a new, continuous cough; or a loss or change to their sense of smell or taste) they must immediately self-isolate, and book a test by calling 119 (England, Wales and Northern Ireland) or visiting <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

Consent form

Please click on the following link to view and complete the MNSP [consent form](#) for your child to self-administer a lateral flow test for COVID-19.

Privacy notice.

Please click on the following link to view the [Privacy Notice](#) which details how personal information will be processed and handled.

Remote learning and face-to-face learning:

Parents and Carers should be aware that MNSP Secondary Schools will be open for key worker children and those considered vulnerable from Wednesday 6th January. If you wish for your child to attend school from this date, you must notify us using the method your 'home school' has stipulated **and please complete the testing consent form before your child returns**. These pupils will either receive face-to-face teaching from a new set of teaching staff, or be expected to engage in remote learning in an IT room with the rest of their year group who will be at home. It is not possible for teachers to undertake live/remote lessons as well as deliver face-to-face learning and support the testing process.

Years 11 and 13 will return to school on Monday 11th January and testing will begin for these pupils.

There is a possibility that some pupils will not have their usual teacher for lessons and may be required to undertake on-line learning whilst the testing process is undertaken. This is because there are some schools with over 600 pupils that will require testing on the first day back in school.

Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 will return to school on Monday 18th January and testing will begin for these pupils. Again, I expect there to be some disruption to normal lessons whilst we ensure that there is adequate supervision for pupils before, during and after the testing process.





www.midsomernortonschoolspartnership.com

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Thank you for your support as always. I would be stretching the truth if I was to suggest that what lies ahead of us is a straightforward task. I am not sure sometimes if those making policy have ever visited a large comprehensive school. They are complex organisations with many subjects, staff, rooms and different aged children. To add testing on top of this (with the bubbles, etc still in place) in a relatively short time-frame, has certainly provided all of us with something to think about.

Yours sincerely

Alun Williams
CEO

