

## DSTC - COVID-19 Testing Kits Policy - September 2020

Anyone who experiences any coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms can [get a coronavirus \(COVID-19\) test](#) at a testing site or at home. This includes all students, teachers, and staff. DSTC has been provided with a small number of testing kits to complement these main access routes. Having a test at a testing site will deliver the fastest results. DSTC test kits should only be used in the exceptional circumstance that an individual becomes symptomatic and we believe they may have barriers to accessing testing elsewhere.

Anyone who displays symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) can and should get a test. These symptoms are:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

It is vital that DSTC only recommends children or staff to get a test if they develop symptoms - the capacity of the NHS Test and Trace system must be protected for those with symptoms of the virus. People without symptoms should not order tests except where instructed to do so through being enrolled in a pilot scheme or at the direct request of their local public health team or director of public health. If a child or staff member at DSTC becomes symptomatic, SLT or RSL / Pastoral Leader should advise them to access a COVID-19 test.

### When to provide a test kit

Coronavirus (COVID-19) test kits should only be offered in the exceptional circumstance an individual becomes symptomatic and **you believe they may have barriers to accessing testing elsewhere.**

In **exceptional circumstances** when DSTC does not think a symptomatic child or staff member would be able to access testing by the usual routes, DSTC will consider providing a test kit to improve the chances that the individual will get tested.

### At DSTC we prioritise giving test kits to:

- Staff who develop symptoms on DSTC site who are unable to secure a test within 24-48 hours
- Children in Care
- Pupil Premium students

- Students where it is clear that parents are unable to access the usual routes of testing as identified by the government. The Principal or her delegated representatives (Mrs Ellis - Vice Principal (DSL) / Mrs McIntosh - Business Manager) have the final decision.

Kits are suitable for people of all ages. Kits should not be given directly to children - only to adults over the age of 18 or a child's parent or carer. Full instructions on how to administer the test and what to do next are provided within each kit. DSTC is not expected to administer testing.

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Or

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**September 2020**