

Arrangements for COVID-19 testing during the holidays and on return in January for all educational and childcare settings in England

Over Christmas, all students should test over the holidays in line with national guidance. This means that they should test if they will be in a high-risk situation that day, and before visiting people who are at higher risk of severe illness if they get COVID-19.

All secondary schools will test their pupils once on-site on return in January. Testing continues to play a vital role in keeping COVID-19 out of schools. Testing all pupils in school boosts testing participation and will help reduce transmission after a period of social mixing over the school holidays. After this test on return, pupils should continue to test in line with government guidelines.