

# Sotheby's INSTITUTE OF ART

## Guidance on Asymptomatic Testing

*Please note: this guidance is for regular asymptomatic testing only. If you have symptoms or believe you have Covid-19, please click [here](#) to book a test.*

All students, faculty and staff attending the Institute or meeting elsewhere for SIA visits are required to undertake regular Covid-19 rapid testing, when you feel well and have no symptoms. These tests are free of charge and widely available. Ideally everyone should take two of these tests, three days apart, before entering the building for the first time, and continue to take two tests, three days apart, on a weekly basis; but you are advised not to travel on public transport only for the sake of taking a test. Results from lateral flow device (LFD) tests can be received in 30 minutes. Asymptomatic testing is extremely important in reducing the spread of Covid-19:

- About 1 in 3 people with Covid-19 do not have any symptoms. LFD tests can detect the virus in people without symptoms and enable them to self-isolate quicker, helping to break the line of transmission.
- The more people that get tested, the better we can mitigate the transmission of Covid-19 to help protect your friends, fellow students and lecturers and to ensure that the Institute can remain open to students.

You may have read coverage about the accuracy of LFDs. Government guidance states that LFDs have been through a rigorous validation programme and that evaluations from Public Health England and the University of Oxford show these tests are accurate and sensitive enough to be used in universities.

You are asked to undertake tests twice a week because a very low viral load that may not be detected in the first test of the week is likely to develop enough to be detected three days later. We ask people entering the building to be ready to show proof of a negative test result. This will be a text or email from the NHS Test and Trace servicing confirming you have registered a negative result. A negative test result does not remove the need to follow other preventative measures, and you must continue to adhere to national and Institute requirements such as social distancing and wearing a face covering.

### How to access and LFD asymptomatic Covid-19 test:

1. At your local community testing centre. Find your local test site by entering your [postcode on the gov.uk](#) website and following the link to your local authority site.
2. At the University of London Student Central testing site, a short walk from the Institute. [Book here](#).
3. Access home testing kits. Details [here](#). **Please take 3 supervised tests at a test site (1 or 2 above) before accessing home testing, to ensure you are carrying them out correctly.**

*If you receive a positive test result, you must inform the Institute and you and your entire household will need to self-isolate. Please contact [j.foy@sia.edu](mailto:j.foy@sia.edu) for next steps.*