



This is your daily email to keep you updated on the government's response to coronavirus (COVID-19).

Extension of military support for secondary schools and colleges

Secondary schools and colleges can continue to access military support to help set up testing sites. This support has been extended until the end of January.

The military can provide virtual training and advice on establishing the testing process, with teams on standby to provide in-person support to set up the testing site if required. If secondary schools and colleges have not yet signed up for the testing programme or started testing, please do consider accessing this support before the end of January.

A smaller amount of military support will be available from 30 January, until February half-term, but only in exceptional circumstances as schools and colleges should already have their testing capability set up and testing should have started.

To request support, please contact the DfE coronavirus (COVID-19) helpdesk on 0800 046 8687.

The following are examples where the military have provided support to help set up testing sites.

Ivybridge Community College

Ivybridge Community College has around 2500 students and 300 staff. Military support was requested to help run a test pilot day to ensure the process and organisation for testing was fit for

purpose for the size of the college. The day was used as an opportunity for both parties to discuss ideas and to refine its operation.

Staff Sergeant Campbell said, “The College has set the standard for the area. The staff have been trained to an excellent standard by the College team and they have all the procedures in place. They should be very proud of what they have achieved, and we wish them all the best”.

The [press release from the college](#) is available to view.