Earlier this month, we opened a new Covid-19 testing centre down at The Watershed, working with NHS Test and Trace to offer free, fast tests for all students and staff without symptoms.

Since then, we are delighted to say that more than 2,000 tests have been carried out, with around 200 students and staff each day visiting the Watershed for a test and getting a result within an hour.

We would like to thank everyone who has taken the time to get tested. By doing so you are taking an important step in keeping yourself and others safe, along with helping make this pilot as effective as it can be as it is rolled out to other universities around the country in the next few weeks.

It is also important to note that this kind of test is only for people **without** symptoms of Covid-19.

[Recently, the Government announced that a ‘student travel window’ will be open from 3 December to 9 December,](https://www.dmu.ac.uk/current-students/hot-topics/2020/november/a-message-from-the-interim-vice-chancellor-professor-andy-collop.aspx) where students will be encouraged to travel home on staggered departure dates and times.

**A key element of making sure they get home for Christmas safely is mass testing, which is already available right now thanks to DMU’s participation in this testing pilot.**

Getting a quick, regular result with a test at the Watershed will give students reassurance that they are doing everything they can to limit the spread of infection as they go home to see friends and family at Christmas.

The testing centre is operating inside The Watershed on Upperton Road on weekdays between 9am and 5pm.

Booking a test is quick and simple. All students and staff need to do is head to MyDMU and click on the ‘Covid Antigen Test’ tile. [You will find more information on booking and the test itself here.](https://www.dmu.ac.uk/your-dmu-safety/lateral-flow-testing.aspx)

The Watershed was identified as a suitable location for the testing centre because it has wheelchair access throughout the building. Parking is free for those with a blue badge and a number of disabled parking bays are available. A guide of all the accessible features of the building is [available here](https://www.accessable.co.uk/de-montfort-university/access-guides/watershed-leicester).

Feedback on the testing process is vital and has already led to positive changes. Please encourage students to [complete this survey](https://wh1.snapsurveys.com/s.asp?k=160397743509) to continue making a difference. They should also make sure they take their phone and student ID card with them, as it will make the registration process quicker.