## Disposing of coronavirus (COVID-19) waste

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has updated its guidance on [how to dispose of waste during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-disposing-of-waste?utm_source=8%20March%202021%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19) including face coverings, personal protective equipment (PPE) and waste from lateral flow device (LFD) test kits.

For schools and colleges, LFD waste is not considered to be healthcare waste.

You should segregate LFD waste from any recyclable packaging or other material. Outer packaging provided with the LFD test kits can be recycled or disposed of through your existing waste streams.

Once a LFD test is complete:

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| * all of the used LFD test kits (swabs, cartridges and devices) should be placed in the small waste bag provided with the kit, this should then be put in your black bag waste bins
* any disposable equipment such as face coverings, gloves, or aprons worn during the LFD testing process, either by those doing the test or those supervising others, should be put in your black bag waste bins
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Under your [waste management duty of care](https://www.gov.uk/managing-your-waste-an-overview?utm_source=8%20March%202021%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19) you must ensure that all waste produced onsite, including from the LFD test kits, is handled appropriately by a licenced waste management company.

**Main page for full guidance is at** [**Coronavirus (C19): disposing of waste**](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-disposing-of-waste?utm_source=8%20March%202021%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19)

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