



03 March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

RE: COVID - Home testing kits

I thought it would be helpful to provide an update on the latest government information on wider testing of households with pupils at school.

As you may be aware, none of our pupils are being asked to test at this time as it is only secondary school students that are being tested under the latest government guidance.

This week the government has announced that the adults in households with primary school, secondary school and college age children, including childcare and support bubbles, can test themselves twice every week at home as schools return from Monday 8 March.

[All households with children of school age to get 2 rapid COVID-19 tests per person per week - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

Around one in three people with COVID-19 do not have symptoms but can still pass it on to others. Regular testing of people without symptoms (asymptomatic testing) is important to help stop the virus spreading.

Schools cannot give test kits to parents, carers or household members. If you want to test at home, you will need to organise your own tests and this can be done via a number of options detailed below. Please be aware that further options are being explored, but for the moment you can organise a test as set out below:

- Via employers if they offer testing to employees
- At a local test site. Testing at these sites is assisted, which means you will swab yourself under the supervision of a trained operator. You may need to book an appointment. [Find your nearest rapid lateral flow test site.](#)
- By collecting a home test kit from a test site. You can collect up to four home test kits at a local collection point. Each kit contains seven tests. Anyone 18 or over can collect. You can check online if the location is busy before you go. [Find your nearest home test kit collection point.](#)
- By ordering a home test kit online. Please do not order online if you can get a test through other methods. This frees up home delivery for those who need it most. [Order rapid lateral flow home test kits](#)

The test will come with instructions on reporting test results. If anyone tests positive or gets coronavirus symptoms, they should tell the school and:

- self-isolate immediately
- get a PCR test to confirm the result
- follow the [stay at home guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection](#)

A negative result means the test did not find signs of coronavirus. This does not guarantee you do not have coronavirus however, so you should keep following all [coronavirus advice](#) including:

- regular handwashing
- social distancing
- wearing a face covering where recommended

There is also more [guidance](#) here on who can be tested and how you can get a test.

Please do not contact your child's school directly regarding household testing, as unfortunately we will be unable to provide any further information than that shared above.

Yours faithfully,



James Passmore
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