



## **COVID-19 TESTING AT SCHOOL**

5.3.2021

Dear parents/carers,

As you know, regular school staff have been offered Lateral Flow Device testing (LFD) at home. This has now been implemented well.

Information on testing has changed over time but we have been told repeatedly that we will not be testing primary children at school.

We have been asked by the DfE to share this information about the widening of testing opportunity with you. Please see below. If you are interested in collecting tests for your household I believe the nearest centre at present is in Hempsted, Gloucester - this can be checked through the link below.

With kind regards,

Zoe Avastu

### **Asymptomatic testing information for parents and adults in households with children at school or college**

NHS Test and Trace announced that all adults in households with school and college age children without symptoms can now access regular rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing.

Test kits can either be collected or ordered online, as set out below.

Please share the information below with your parent networks to help answer any questions they may have.

Undertaking regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing helps reduce transmission of the virus. Parents and other adults in households with children at school or college, who do not have symptoms, can now access regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. This includes childcare and support bubbles.

Tests are fast, easy and completely free. There are [different ways](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff) ( <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff> ) for a household, childcare or support bubble to collect their test to take at home, twice-weekly:

- through your employer, if they offer testing to employees
- by collecting a home test kit from a local test site – anyone aged 18 or over can collect 2 packs of 7 tests
- by ordering a home test kit online – please do not order online if you can access testing through other routes, this frees up home delivery for those who need it most

If you have any queries about the tests, and you live in England, please call 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day from 7am to 11pm.

Children of primary school age (and below) without symptoms are not being asked to take a test.

Testing is voluntary, but strongly recommended to all who are eligible. Alongside the vaccine, washing hands, wearing face coverings, and maintaining social distancing, rapid testing plays a vital role in reducing transmission rates. Getting into the habit of regular testing as part of our everyday lives will help us all to play our part and do what we can to protect each other.