



St. Mary's CE Primary School

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Lateral Flow Device Testing for Primary Schools

Dear Parents and Carers,

You may be aware that the guidance on Lateral Flow Device Testing for primary aged pupils has just changed. There was an announcement on Sunday 28th February.

The Announcement

https://www.gov.uk/government/news/all-households-with-children-of-school-aged-to-get-rapid-covid-19-tests-per-person-per-week?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_source=813f5236-80a6-4440-bd45-db9f6692837d&utm_content=immediately

The DfE have sent this information to schools, which summarises the announcement.

Rapid lateral flow testing for households and bubbles of school pupils and staff

Around 1 in 3 people with coronavirus (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. As lockdown restrictions gradually ease, we all need to play our part to help protect each other.

On Sunday 28 February, the Department of Health and Social Care announced that from Monday 1 March, 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.

Households, childcare and support bubbles of primary, secondary and college staff can also be tested.

Twice-weekly testing will also be offered to adults working in the wider school community, including bus drivers and after school club leaders. The twice-weekly test kits can be accessed:

- via employers if they offer testing to employees
- at a local test site
- by collecting a home test kit from a test site
- by ordering a home test kit online

Schools should not give test kits to parents, carers or household members and should not order more test kits for this purpose. Letters containing advice on where to access testing will be made available for schools to share with parents and staff shortly.

Vision: *Delivering excellence, allowing all to flourish*
Mission: *Creating a culture of wonder, guided by Christian faith*
Values: *Compassion • Endurance • Thankfulness*

Information on how to get a test kit

- This link will help you identify how and where to get a test kit, if you would like to take up this offer and as soon as we receive more information on this, we will share it with you.

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_source=ca1c659b-95d6-490e-87c6-d6c09e85ecfb&utm_content=immediately#primary-or-secondary-school-staff

Kindest regards

Amanda Bishop/Wendy Livingstone
(Acting Head Teachers)