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Friday 5th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

You may have seen reports in the media that household members of school staff and children attending school can have access to the rapid lateral flow tests.

This link takes you to the latest information I have received from the Government about this offer.

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=5eb3a371-39ca-45b2-9e00-ccb7c409a85a&utm_content=daily#how-to-get-a-rapid-lateral-flow-test

These are the main points to note from the Gov.uk guidance:

How to get a rapid lateral flow test

There are different ways to get a test for school staff, pupils, and members of their households, childcare and support bubbles in England who do not have symptoms of coronavirus.

Members of households, childcare or support bubbles of school staff and pupils

This section does not apply to secondary school pupils, and primary and secondary school staff, who should take twice-weekly tests using home test kits provided by their school.

From 1 March 2021, if you're a member of a household, childcare bubble or support bubble of staff or a pupil you can get a twice-weekly test:

- through your employer 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

Take a test at a rapid lateral flow test site

You can take a rapid lateral flow test at a local 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.](https://maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/) <https://maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/>

Collect test kits

You can collect 2 packs of home test kits at a local collection point. Each pack contains 7 tests.

Anyone 18 or over can collect.

Most collection points are open from 1.30pm to 7pm. You can check online if the location is open or busy before you go. You do not need to make an appointment.

Do not visit a collection point outside opening hours, as it may be used to test people with coronavirus symptoms outside these times.

[Find your nearest home test kit collection point.](https://find-covid-19-rapid-test-sites.maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/) <https://find-covid-19-rapid-test-sites.maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/>

I hope you find these links helpful.

To reassure you, staff in our school have been self testing using the rapid lateral flow tests twice a week since January and we have all got very used to it. It's quick to administer, the kits provide everything you need and you have your results in 30 minutes. I would urge you to give this offer some serious consideration.

With best wishes,
Julia Matson