



### **Archibald First School**

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Dear Families

2<sup>ND</sup> March 2021

## **For Information Only: Rapid lateral flow testing for households and bubbles of pupils**

As you may have heard in the news, the Government has made testing available to members of households, childcare or support bubbles of school staff and pupils.

### **How to get a rapid lateral flow test**

There are different ways to get a test for 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 pupils**

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

### **Get a test through your employer**

Your workplace may offer rapid lateral flow testing to you. Contact your employer to find out more.

### **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.](#)

### **Collect test kits**

You can collect up to 4 home test kits at a local collection point. Each kit contains 7 tests. Anyone 18 or over can collect. You can check online if the location is busy before you go. The online service to find your nearest home test kit collection point will be available shortly.

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## Order home test kits online

If you cannot get tested at your workplace, or are unable to go to a test site or collect test kits, you can order a home test kit online.

Do not order online if you can get a test through other methods. This frees up home delivery for those who need it most.

<https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

## What twice-weekly testing involves

You will be asked to:

- take a test twice a week (every 3 or 4 days apart)
- report every result to NHS Test and Trace on the same day you take the test

[Report your test result online](#) or by calling 119.

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. But this does not guarantee you do not have coronavirus, so you should keep following all [coronavirus advice](#) including:

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

## If you have coronavirus symptoms

The most important symptoms of COVID-19 are recent onset of any of the following:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If you have symptoms of COVID-19, arrange to have a PCR test if you have not already had one. Stay at home while you are waiting for a home self-sampling kit, a test site appointment or a test result. Do not use the rapid lateral flow testing service as this is only for people without symptoms.

[Order a test for people with symptoms](#) online or call 119.

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