

St Mary's C.E. Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr Calvin Henry



5th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Home Covid testing kits for families

As mentioned in my weekly letter, Haringey Public Health has told the school that home Covid testing kits are being made available to families whose children are in education. Please see their full message below.

Home testing kits are now available to families whose children attend education or are part of a childcare bubble/support bubble or households who live with education staff

*1 in 3 people with COVID-19 do not show symptoms and could still pass the virus on to others. **Regular home testing with lateral flow devices is therefore being extended from 1st March to include the entire household of primary and secondary pupils** (including any [childcare bubble](#) or [support bubble](#) pupils might have). It is also being extended to **include households of primary or secondary staff** (including any [childcare bubble](#) or [support bubble](#) education staff might have). The tests should be taken twice weekly 3-4 days apart, with results reported to NHS Track and Trace. The home testing kits should only be used by those showing **no symptoms** of COVID-19. For more information, the guidance is available [here](#).*

There are different ways to access the home testing kits:

- *One way is to collect the home testing kits from a PCR testing site in the borough.*
- *Those who are not able to collect home testing kits can place an order for them to be delivered to their home address.*

Those eligible to receive home testing kits can follow this link <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests> which provides information on collection points and also gives the option of ordering the tests to be posted. This link takes you straight to a map with the collection points for home testing kits <https://find-covid-19-rapid-test-sites.maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/>. Please note that anyone collecting a home testing kit, can collect up to two kits. Each home testing kit contains 7 tests.

There will be further communications coming from the Government about the extension of the home testing programme hopefully next week. This should include a Q&A, leaflets, etc and will be shared with schools once available for them to then cascade to the wider school community.

At the moment, the home testing programme does not include families or households of those attending early years settings. The home testing kits are only available to those who are members of a household, childcare bubble or support bubble of primary / secondary staff or pupils. Home testing kits are underway for staff in early years settings and an update will be made available to all of Haringey's settings as soon as the Government announces the guidance for this.

I hope that you find this information useful; please do get in touch with the school office if you have any questions or need further clarification about any of this.

Kind regards

Calvin Henry.

Calvin Henry
Headteacher