

All households with children of school age to get 2 rapid COVID-19 tests per person per week

Please read this information. We would encourage you all to take up this offer in an effort to keep everyone safe. This is another way to support us to be able to keep the school open.

All households with primary and secondary school and college age children, and childcare and support bubbles, will be encouraged to start regular twice-weekly testing as schools return. Tests will be available for adults in these households to collect from 1 March.

Getting a rapid test is quick and convenient. The expanded regular testing offer for people without symptoms will be delivered through:

- testing in-person via workplace testing
- local authority test sites
- **collection at a local PCR test site during specific test collection time windows – this is the Dragon Road Test Centre 1.30pm-7.00pm**
- a new home ordering service, which once launched on 1 March will allow people to order lateral flow tests online to be delivered to their home

All local authorities in England have now enrolled in the community testing programme. As a partnership between national and local government, community testing offers asymptomatic testing for local public services, small businesses, self-employed people and communities that have been disproportionately affected by the virus.

Testing in education settings is now well established, with 600,000 tests done at universities since last year and more than three million rapid COVID-19 tests conducted in schools and colleges in England since 4 January, including tests for those students who have already returned and regular testing for all staff.

Rapid, regular testing for new groups is one of a range of new measures designed to minimise the spread of COVID-19 and support the successful return of more learners to face-to-face education and childcare settings. Testing is an additional tool, working in conjunction with other protective measures that are in place in schools to help protect staff and students including social distancing, handwashing and face covering. Schools and colleges will not be expected to provide the test kits to families or administer the family testing process.

Professor Yvonne Doyle, Medical Director at Public Health England, said:

‘These rapid tests help uncover hidden cases of the virus and break chains of transmission, stopping outbreaks before they occur. Combined with other protective measures, they are a vital tool to help us lower infection rates and ensure that they stay low. I would encourage all eligible households to take up the offer of twice weekly rapid testing – it’s quick and painless and could help save lives.’