

25 March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer or Student,

NHS Test and Trace: Covid-19 Home Testing update

Last week pupils/students who had participated in on-site testing were provided with a testing kit when they completed their final on-site test to enable them to continue twice weekly testing at home. Early next week we will be distributing additional kits to the same pupils/students to enable them to continue testing during and beyond the school holiday. Each pupil/student will receive a total of 9 tests which should provide sufficient for the next 4 weeks.

Participation continues to be voluntary and attendance at school is unaffected if you decide not to take part. There is no requirement to provide online consent for the home testing; but should have read the Privacy Notice included in our [Home Testing Information Pack](#) which is available on the school website.

Please could you encourage you to complete one of the tests on a Monday morning each week before the pupil/student attends school. This is particularly important when pupils return after the school holiday. This timing will reduce the implications for others in the event of a positive result. The second test each week should be completed 3-4 days later (e.g. Thursday or Friday morning).

Please can we remind you that:

- Anyone aged 11 must have the test administered by an adult
- Anyone aged 12-17 should be supervised by an adult but can swab themselves

Please remember that the result of each test taken by a pupil/student at home needs to be reported to:

- NHS Test and Trace: www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result, and
- Roundhay School: <https://forms.office.com/r/HKCiuKVK1M>

If the test result is positive, then the pupil/student and those in their household (including any childcare or support bubbles) should self-isolate immediately in line with NHS Test and Trace guidance, for 10 full days. A confirmatory PCR test should be booked for the pupil/student, on the same day or as soon as possible.

The lateral flow devices (LFD) which are included in the home testing kits are for asymptomatic individuals only. **If someone displays symptoms they must complete a different type of test (a PCR test) which is processed by a laboratory and self-isolate pending the result.** A lateral flow test must not be used in this scenario. We appreciate that there is some confusion about the two types of test and so we have put together the following document to explain the difference and describe when each should be used.

The kits that we provide are for pupil/student use only, and at this stage for those who have undertaken supervised swabbing in school. Parents and other adults in the household can now also access tests by:

- Ordering tests online www.gov.uk/order-school-household-tests
- Getting an assisted test at work, if it is available
- Attending a test site to get tested or pick up tests to do at home

To find out more on school household testing click [here](#).

Regular testing of people without symptoms is one of the ways in which we can help stop the virus spreading, alongside all the other control measures which we have in place.

Thank you for your continued support.

The Roundhay Team

Lateral flow device (LFD) testing is a fast and simple way to test people who do not have symptoms of COVID-19 but who may still be spreading the virus. They detect proteins called ‘antigens’ produced by the virus. The tests are easy to use and give results in 30 minutes which is why they are being used in home testing kits for the twice weekly testing of school staff, pupils and their families.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/understanding-lateral-flow-antigen-testing-for-people-without-symptoms>

Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing is mainly used to confirm coronavirus cases in people with symptoms who are already self-isolating. They check for genetic material of the virus in the sample. There is a network of drive-through and walk-through test sites open 7 days a week – you can book online using the link below. The sample is sent to a lab and most people get their result the next day.

<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

