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Dear Parents / Carers,

We are delighted to welcome your child back to school. It's such a pleasure to see everyone! Attached is a quick reference guide which clarifies any potential absence from school in relation to Covid 19. If you know that your child is unwell for any reason, please do not send him/her to school.

The following is the most up to date information in relation to the Government's current National Testing Programme.

Help to stop Coronavirus spreading

To protect yourself and others, when you leave home you must:

- wash hands - keep washing your hands regularly
- cover face - wear a face covering over your nose and mouth in enclosed spaces
- make space - stay at least a metre away from people not in your household
- If you are feeling unwell, get a test and do not leave home for at least 10 days.

For more information, the government have published frequently asked questions outlining [what you can and can't do](#), you might also be interested in the information on [Shielding and Support](#).

Coronavirus testing and tracing

Everyone in England who is showing coronavirus symptoms is eligible to book a swab test to find out if they have the virus.

Who can be tested

Anyone with [symptoms](#) can get a coronavirus test, whatever their age.

The testing process

The test involves taking a swab of the nose and the back of the throat, which can be done by the person themselves (self-administered) if they are aged 11 or over or by a parent or carer

Web link to order a home test kit or book an appointment at a test site: <https://self-referral.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/antigen/name>

Available Testing Routes

Parents and School Staff should be **aware of test sites** near to their home

The test site types are:

- **Remote test sites** -these are drive-in only;
- **Local test sites** -these are walk-in;
- **Mobile test units** -these are mobile and move around every few days so you may notice addresses change.

The test sites are generally open seven days a week from **8am to 8pm**.

The different ways you can get tested are covered below:

Test sites

The Government have established a network of drive-through and walk-through test sites and test is completed by a trained member of the test site

Home testing

Home test kits can be delivered to someone's door so they can test themselves and their family without leaving the house.

You can also read:

- the [coronavirus home test: step-by-step guide](#) (PDF, 12.1MB, 13 pages)
- the [coronavirus test guide: how to test on a child](#) (PDF, 471KB, 6 pages)

School Test Kits

Test Kits will only to be offered in these **exceptional circumstances**:

- The Person at School has **developed symptoms while at school**, and
- The school believe the person may have **barriers** to accessing a test **elsewhere**
- The school believe that if they sent the individual home without a kit, they would **not** receive a test at all.

Schools **cannot** do any tests on school premises.

Test kits must be collected by a parent or carer they **cannot** be given to the child or a transport escort.

Tests must be completed by a **parent or carer** at the child's home address.

NHS and PHE aim to return test results within 48 hours of a swab being taken at a test centre, or within 72 hours for a home test.

Step-by-step guidance

1. Read the instructions within the pack which can be found here:

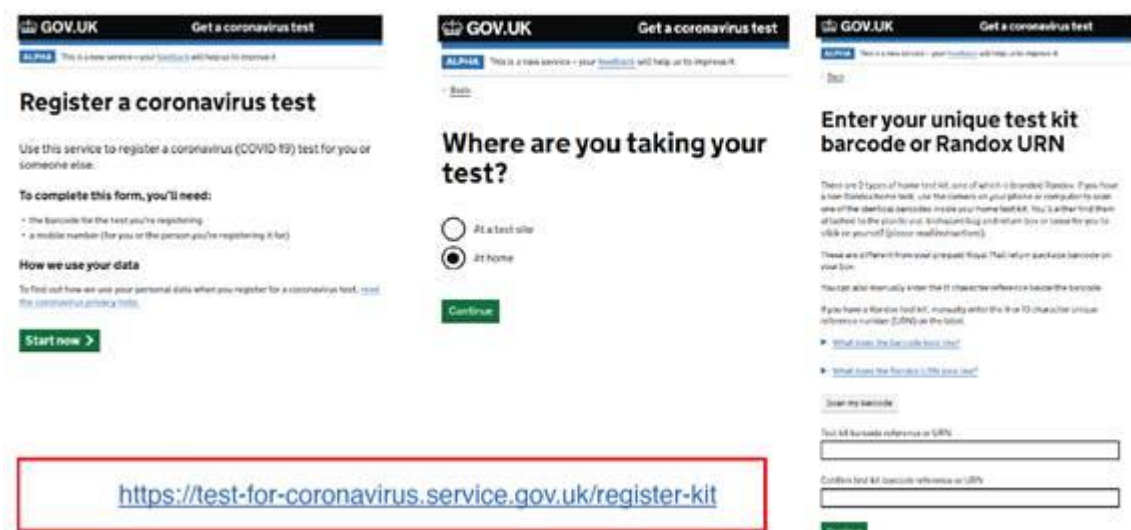
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/907961/Coronavirus_home_test_step-by-step_guide.pdf

2. Conduct testing at home instructional video can be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xaw8DsF2Igc>

3. Register test kits online to make sure you receive a result:

<https://test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/register-kit>



<https://test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/register-kit>

4. Return test kits via Royal Mail priority box. You can find your nearest priority box via this link (please tick the priority box): <https://www.royalmail.com/services-near-you#/>

What do the different results mean?

For individuals who are **symptomatic and/or test positive** for coronavirus please follow the latest NHS guidance, which can be found at:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>



Individuals
Isolate for **10 days**



Households
Isolate for **14 days**

For guidance on responding to **coronavirus in children**, please follow the link at:
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/coronavirus-in-children/>

Individuals **can end their isolation if there are no symptoms AND have a negative coronavirus result.**

However, if **further symptoms develop**, there will be a **need to isolate** and a further test may be appropriate.

Call 111 if at any point symptoms get worse.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Kind regards,

Geraldine Mendonça

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Principal