

### **Rapid Routine Testing for Households**

In addition to testing for staff, and secondary/college aged pupils, the government has confirmed twice-weekly testing using rapid lateral flow tests will be given for free to all families and households with primary, secondary school and college aged children and young people, including childcare and support bubbles.

As part of the roadmap out of lockdown, regular twice weekly testing will become available for more people, starting with all those in the school community: including parents and carers.

These rapid tests are for people **without symptoms**. If anyone in your household develops symptoms of COVID, the household **MUST** self-isolate and arrange a PCR test for the person with symptoms. A PCR test (which is different to the rapid tests) is sent to a laboratory so takes around 24-48hours to get the results back. The rest of the household must also isolate along with the individual with symptoms until these results are known. To arrange a PCR Test and to check opening times go to the Government website <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

These rapid tests help uncover hidden cases of the virus and break chains of transmission, stopping outbreaks before they occur. Regular testing for those without symptoms is a critical tool to safeguard the population and stop the spread of the virus. It is already in place for millions of people across workplaces, the NHS, and schools. Routine testing is not currently recommended for children in primary school or younger, so these tests are for the adults and secondary school age children in the household, including people in your childcare or support bubble.

Families can pick these tests up from the following places:

- Anyone over the age of 18 years old can collect two home test packs (each containing 7 tests) weekly from one of the rapid testing sites for people with no symptoms. Details of these sites can be found [https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201170/coronavirus/2557/coronavirus\\_testing/4](https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201170/coronavirus/2557/coronavirus_testing/4)
- For a limited period, test sites at the Honeywell centre, Southgate Street and Peel street are able to distribute home test kits between 1.30pm - 7pm. Please do not visit a collection point outside opening hours, as it may be used to test people with coronavirus symptoms outside these times.
- If you are unable to access a collection site, please order rapid lateral flow home test kits online: <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>