



4 March 2021

## Accessing kits for regular home COVID tests

Dear parents and carers

We have received this information today from the government regarding regular home testing for families with children in schools. These tests are voluntary and just for adults.

Since we re-opened in June, we have not had any evidence of transmission of coronavirus in our school. This is thanks to the steps being taken by staff, by children and by you. I would very much like to keep it this way and to avoid having to send any classes home to self-isolate and so I would appreciate it if you helped us by taking these tests regularly.

These rapid tests have been in use in test centres in Luton for a long time now. Before Christmas, local public health professionals informed us that they had helped identify 1,600 asymptomatic cases in Luton that would otherwise have gone undetected.

Please see the instructions below on how to access the tests.

Yours faithfully

Mr Hunt

## Asymptomatic testing information for parents and adults in households with children at school

NHS Test and Trace announced earlier this week, that all **adults** in households with school and college age children without symptoms can now access regular rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing.

Test kits can be collected or ordered online, as set out below.

Undertaking regular, rapid coronavirus testing helps reduce transmission of the virus. Parents and other adults in households with children at school, who do not have symptoms, can now access regular, rapid coronavirus testing. This includes childcare and support bubbles.

Tests are fast, easy and completely free. There are **different ways** for a household, childcare or support bubble to collect their test to take at home, twice-weekly:

- through your employer, if they offer testing to employees
- by collecting a home test kit from a local test site – anyone aged 18 or over can collect 2 packs of 7 tests
- by ordering a home test kit online – please do not order online if you can access testing through other routes, this frees up home delivery for those who need it most

If you have any queries about the tests, and you live in England, please call 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day from 7am to 11pm.

*Children of primary school age (and below) without symptoms are **not** being asked to take a test.*

Testing is voluntary, but strongly recommended to all who are eligible. Alongside the vaccine, washing hands, wearing face coverings, and maintaining social distancing, rapid testing plays a vital role in reducing transmission rates. Getting into the habit of regular testing as part of our everyday lives will help us all to play our part and do what we can to protect each other.

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### Local test centres:

- Lewsey Community Centre (Landrace Rd, Luton LU4 0SW) – 8am – 8pm
- Farley Community Centre (Delphine Cl, Luton LU1 5RE) – 8am – 8pm
- Central Library (St Georges Square, Luton LU1 2NG) – 8am – 8pm