



Archdiocese of Birmingham
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Monday 1st March 2021

Dear Parents & Carers

As we prepare for our full reopening on Monday 8th March the Government have announced that testing will be available to all parents/carers with school aged children.

They announced;

"Testing will continue to be a vital part of our response to coronavirus (COVID-19), supporting the roadmap set out by the Prime Minister earlier this week. As we cautiously ease restrictions in England, starting with the return of schools and moving towards more social mixing at the end of March, we need to be sure that each COVID-19 case is found as quickly and as easily as possible. Although cases are declining, everyone needs to play their part to keep the virus under control while keeping children and young people in school."

You may be aware that all staff in school have the opportunity to test twice weekly. Staff are doing this to keep your children safe. I am now asking that you join us with this regular asymptomatic testing to keep our school community as safe as possible. If we all play our part, we will be able to create a school that is safe for all and hopefully will avoid any further closures.

As you know, children in Primary School will not be testing and so this makes it even more important that adults from their household do test.

To support us in keeping our school safe you will either need to order or collect your testing kits. Getting a rapid test is quick and convenient. This can be done in the following ways if you are not already testing through your own work;

- visit a local testing site.
- collection at a local PCR test site during specific test collection time windows.
- Using the home ordering service.

The government have urged us to encourage you to take a test or collect tests from a local site. Details of how to locate your nearest site are below.

[COVID Test Finder \(test-and-trace.nhs.uk\)](https://test-and-trace.nhs.uk)

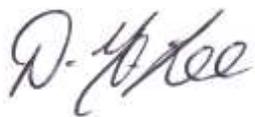
If you are unable to take a test at a local site or collect, then you can order for home delivery however please note that availability will be limited.

[Schools testing: Order coronavirus \(COVID-19\) rapid lateral flow home test kits - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

Once again, I do hope that you will join us in testing regularly to support us in school in ensuring that our community is as safe as possible. I was particularly moved by the words of the Queen when she talked about vaccines, stating that we should think about others and not just ourselves. I feel these words can be applied to this situation too.

Please remember this is asymptomatic testing. Anyone with symptoms of COVID-19 **MUST** book a test [online](#) or by calling 119.

Yours sincerely



Miss D T Lee
Principal

