



THE CORBET SCHOOL

Headteacher Dr Jane Tinker BSc MA(Ed) EdD NPQH

15th March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Twice weekly COVID-19 testing at home for pupils

The government have directed schools to ask pupils to move to twice weekly, rapid COVID-19 testing at home. This is following their first three supervised tests on site at school.

Up to 1 in 3 people who have COVID-19 have no symptoms and could be spreading it without knowing. Getting into a regular habit of testing twice a week will help stop the virus spreading, keeping your family and friends safer.

We will be sending home COVID-19 testing kits with your child from week commencing March 15th.

We would like pupils to take a test **every Sunday and Wednesday evening**.

If your child has tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days, they should not take part in rapid testing at home.

Your child should also **continue testing twice a week, at home, throughout the Easter school holidays**. We will be sending home extra kits for the Easter holiday before term ends.

Do I need to give consent?

Pupils and parents do not give written consent to take part in the home testing programme. Please read the privacy notice enclosed.

What type of tests will be used?

We will be sending home Lateral Flow Device (LFD) tests. They are a fast and simple way to test people who do not have symptoms of COVID-19, but who may still be spreading the virus.

The tests are easy to use and give results in 30 minutes.

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

Taking the test

We will give pupils a leaflet with instructions on how to do the test with the kit. There is also a useful video to show you how to take the test [here](#).

[Help and support is available](#), including instructions in different languages on how to test and report the results and a video showing you how to take the test.

There is no need to keep used test equipment after the test result has been reported. You can put it in your normal bin (household waste).

This does not replace symptomatic testing. If you have symptoms, you should self-isolate immediately, book a PCR test and follow national guidelines.

Company Number: 07721594

Registered Office: The Corbet School

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Telephone: 01939 260296 Fax: 01939 262009

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Can my child take the test themselves?

Pupils aged 12-17 should do the test themselves with adult supervision. The adult may help the pupil to take the test if they need support.

Pupils aged 11 must be tested by an adult and the adult must report the result.

How do I report problems or issues with testing?

If there is an issue with the test kit, for example something is missing, please report it by calling **119** and please also tell the school.

If an accident or injury happens whilst using the test kit, please seek medical care by calling 111 (or 999 if it is an emergency). Please also report what happened using this website: <https://coronavirus-yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk/>

What should you do after the test if the result is positive?

If anyone tests **positive you, your household, any support bubbles you are part of** should self-isolate immediately in line with NHS Test and Trace guidance for 10 days.

You need to report your result to both [NHS Test and Trace](#) and [The Corbet School](#).

You should [order a confirmatory PCR test](#) if you are testing at home (confirmatory PCR tests are not needed if the test was conducted at the Asymptomatic Test Site at School/college).

What should you do after the test if the result is void?

If the result of the test is **unclear (void)** you should do another test. If a second result is **unclear (void)**, you should [order a PCR test](#).

Void results should be reported to both [NHS Test & Trace](#) and [The Corbet School](#).

What should you do after the test if the result is negative?

Negative results should be reported to both [NHS Test & Trace](#) and [The Corbet School](#).

A negative result does not guarantee that you are not carrying the virus. So, you should continue to follow social distancing, and other measures to reduce transmission such as wearing a face mask and regularly washing your hands and observing social distancing.

If you or anyone in your household gets symptoms of the virus you should follow [national guidelines on self-isolation and testing](#).

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Testing for parents, households and bubbles twice a week

A reminder that regular rapid testing is now also available for parents, their households and support or childcare bubbles. The government is encouraging all families to participate in twice weekly testing to help stop the spread.

Parents and other adults in the household can 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 (where you will be able to see how to take the test) or pick up tests to do at home.

To find out more on school household testing visit [Households and bubbles of pupils, students and staff of schools and colleges: get rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-testing-for-households-and-bubbles)

Why take part

Taking part in testing is voluntary and all pupils will be able to attend school whether they take part in testing or not. We are strongly encouraging all pupils to take part. Testing at home will allow your child and other pupils to attend school as safely as possible.

Questions

Please email admin@corbetschool.net to contact Miss Kear, our COVID Coordinator, if you have any questions or concerns about home testing.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

Mr G Simms
Deputy Headteacher

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