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Moorside High School

Policy for allocating a COVID 19 Test Kit 2020-2021

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Date Reviewed:October 2020.....
Date of Next Review: October 2021.....
Reviewed by: ...Teaching & Learning Committee

October 2020

Moorside High School

Policy for allocating a COVID 19 Test Kit 2020-2021

This policy is written using the advice provided by the Department for Education and the Department of Health and Social Care.

The Government rationale for supplying schools with home testing kits

- **To protect pupils, student and staff by improving access to testing**
- **To prevent and control outbreaks of COVID 19 by identifying cases early**
- **To provide reassurance and allow those who test negative to carry on studying and working**

Current guidance states that should a person have symptoms of Coronavirus they should self-isolate and have a test. They must stay at home until they have the test results back.

(Symptoms include a persistent cough, high temperature and/or loss of smell or taste)

If a person tests positive they must isolate for 10 days and take a test. Household members must also self-isolate, but for 14 days. If they show no symptoms and the test comes back negative you can all return to school/work.

Available Testing Routes

Test sites near to your school, these could include

- Remote test sites, that are drive-in only
- Local test sites, that you walk into
- Mobile test units, these are mobile and move every few days

Sites are generally open 8am-8pm.

Home Test Kits

-People can order these to be delivered to your home (up to 4 test kits in one delivery)

These are posted to the address provided and are returned by Royal Mail priority mailbox. These are the same kits that have been provided to school.

Your nearest priority box can be found <http://www.royalmail.com/services-near-you#/>

To order a home testing kit or to book an appointment at a test site

Help desk call 119 7am to 11pm daily. If symptoms are not improving dial 111 NHS or 999 for an emergency.

<http://self-referral.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov/antigen/name>

Test kit guidance can be found on the following link

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

School Testing Kits

-All schools in England have been supplied with ten testing kits. These are coronavirus swab test kits. Not antibody testing kits.

Who are the Test Kits for?

We will only provide a test kit in **exceptional circumstances** to individuals (pupils teachers and staff of the school) who;

- have developed symptoms while at school
- we believe there may be a barrier to accessing a test elsewhere
- if we believe the individual sent home would not receive a test

If the person requiring the test is under 18 the test must be given to a parent or carer. Parent or carers must administer the test to children under age 11.

Individuals should not attend school or college to receive a test if they have developed symptoms outside of school. If the individual meets the **exceptional circumstances** a test kit can be picked up by a non-household member.

Schools responsibilities

- To ensure the test kits are ordered
- Store the kit in a safe place at room temperature
- Communicate this policy with stakeholders
- Distribute the tests and ensure parents have guidance on how to administer the test kit
- Contact 119 if no tests received in school
- Advise parents to contact <https://111.nhs.uk/COVID-19>
- Or call 111 if symptoms get worse or 999 in an emergency

School cannot

- administer tests
- allow tests to be completed on school site
- provide a test unless there are significant barriers to a person receiving one in the other ways mentioned in this document
- ask for evidence of a negative test result before allowing a pupil back into school

How to administer the testing kit at home

1. Read the instructions inside the pack, a copy 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=Xaw8DsF2lqc>
3. Register test kits online to make sure you get your result <https://test-for-coronavirus.services.gov.uk/register-kit>
4. Return kits via Royal Mail priority box. Your nearest can be found via <https://www.royalmail.com/services-near-you#/>

You must take the test, register the test and return the test all on the same day.

What do the different results mean?

For individuals who are symptomatic and/or test positive for coronavirus please follow the guidance

<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 and take a test
- Other household members isolate for 14 days

For guidance on responding to coronavirus in children follow-

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/coronavirus-in-children/>

If school has a positive test-

-school must contact the Local Health Team (LHT). They will contact school once they are aware that someone in school tests positive, carry out a rapid risk assessment to confirm who has been in close contact and ensure that they self-isolate. They will work with school to give guidance.

If a person has been in close contact with a confirmed case they must self-isolate for 14 days.

Direct contact includes

-face to face with the infected person for any length of time within 1m, including being coughed on, conversations face to face, unprotected physical contact (skin to skin).

-proximity contact, extends to close contact within 1 to 2m for more than 15 minutes

Travelling in a small vehicle with the infected person

Individuals can end their self-isolation if there are no symptoms and a negative test. However if further symptoms develop the person will need to isolate and retest.

Applying for further tests in school

School will not be sent new tests automatically

School will be assigned a Unique Organisation Number (UON)

This number will be used on the portal to reorder and must be stated when contacting 119 for support

The link to apply for more tests is

<https://request-testing.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/>

Contacts in school:

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