

# CANON POPHAM CofE PRIMARY ACADEMY

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Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021

## **Rapid home testing kits for Primary School Children**

Dear Parents and Carers

You may have heard in the media over the last few days about rapid home testing kits being made available to primary age children and families. This is part of the ongoing work to keep our schools as safe as possible when children return on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March.

Whilst this is not compulsory, all members of a household who have a primary age child and their close contact support or childcare bubble members are eligible to take part in regular home testing using the Lateral Flow Test (LFT) kits. This is to help everyone in the community to work together and to try to reduce the risk of someone attending school who is asymptomatic, and therefore may spread the virus without being aware of this. We need to do all we can to prevent any further need to close bubbles, and taking part in this testing may help to reduce the chances of this.

The tests would be done twice weekly, at home in the same way as the staff in school are already doing. Ideally one would be taken on Sunday, prior to the start of the school week and one mid-week. The test takes only a minute or two to do, and a result is available in 30 minutes. You then report results using the NHS on line reporting system.

It is important to know that, should the test be positive, the child and family members would be required to self-isolate and book a PCR test to confirm the result through the usual drive in facility such as the one at the airport. You should also let school know, if you have obtained a positive LF test result prior to going for a PCR test.

**You should not use the test if anyone in the family has any single one of the covid symptoms.**

If anyone is symptomatic, the family/ close contacts should begin to self-isolate and the symptomatic person should immediately book a PCR test. The LFT kits are ONLY designed to pick up asymptomatic cases and must NOT be used in place of the PCR test.

There are a number of ways that you can get your tests. They can be obtained from:

A local rapid test site

You can find where these are at [www.doncaster.gov.uk/CovidTesting](http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/CovidTesting)

Ordering home testing kits on line from: <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

Collect home testing kits from a test site. You can find your nearest collection points at:

<https://find-covid-19-rapid-test-sites.maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/>

The rapid testing is one part of the measures in place to keep schools and everyone connected with them as safe as possible. They do not replace the COVID measures that are expected to be followed but are in addition to these. We all still need to follow the government guidance and remember the hands, face, space rule.

We hope that you will consider being part of this additional tool to keep our children and staff safe and learning in school.

If you have any further questions please feel welcome to ring school and we will be happy to offer as much support as we can.

Thank you for your continued support  
Mrs Navas



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