

Yox Valley Partnership



Academy Head - Gail Jerman
head@yoxvalley.org
Website: www.yoxvalleypartnership.org

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Rapid Lateral Flow Testing for Parents and Adults in Households with Children at School

We are sharing important information with you about testing for coronavirus, which we have received from our daily Department for Education Update: 4 March – Coronavirus – Daily update to all early years, children's social care, schools and further education providers.

NHS Test and Trace announced that from 1st March all adults in households with school and college age children **without coronavirus symptoms** can now access regular rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing.

Undertaking regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing helps reduce transmission of the virus. Tests are fast, easy and completely free. There are several different ways for a household, childcare or support bubble to access collect their test to take at home, twice-weekly:

- **Get a test through your employer**

Your workplace may offer rapid lateral flow testing to you. Contact your employer to find out more.

- **Take a test at a rapid lateral flow test site**

You can take a rapid lateral flow test at a local site. Testing at these sites is assisted, which means you will swab yourself under the supervision of a trained operator. To find a local site: <https://maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/>

You may need to book an appointment.

- **Collect test kits**

You can collect 2 packs of home test kits at a local collection point. Each pack contains 7 tests. Anyone 18 or over can collect.

Most collection points are open from 1.30pm to 7pm. You do not need to make an appointment but do check they are open before you go. To find a local collection point: <https://maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/findatestcenter.html>

Do not visit a collection point outside opening hours, as it may be used to test people with coronavirus symptoms outside these times.

- **Order home test kits online**

If you cannot get tested at your workplace, or are unable to go to a test site or collect test kits, you can order a home test kit online. Visit: <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

Do not order online if you can get a test through other methods. This frees up home delivery for those who need it most.

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

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 and helps us all to play our part and do what we can to protect each other.

I hope this information is useful to you and that the opportunity for rapid testing of adults in your household helps allay concerns you may have about the transmission of coronavirus.

Thank your continued support – Stay Safe and Stay Alert.

Best wishes



Gail Jerman
Academy Headteacher

Never giving less than our best

Yoxford and Peasenhall Primary School, High Street, Yoxford, Suffolk. IP17 3EU

Email: officeyoxford@yoxvalley.org

Tel: 01728 668291

Middleton Primary School, Rectory Road, Middleton, Suffolk. IP17 3NW

Email: officemiddleton@yoxvalley.org

Tel: 01728 648251

Southwold Primary School, Cumberland Road, Southwold, Suffolk IP18 6JP

Email: admin@southwoldprimaryschool.org

Tel: 01502 723137