

King Edwin Primary School



Head Teacher Mr Callaghan-Wetton
Fourth Avenue, Edwinstowe, Notts, NG21 9NS
Tel: (01623) 822111 Fax: (01623) 825707
E Mail: office@kingedwin.notts.sch.uk
Website: www.kingedwin.notts.sch.uk

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Lateral Flow Test Kits for families

Dear Parents/Carers,

Our public health colleagues continue to urge all of us to ensure that all the protective measures continue to be rigorously adopted at this time in schools and other settings. As many as one in three people who contract the virus show no symptoms so could be spreading the disease unknowingly.

Even though twice weekly lateral flow device (LFD) testing has been rolled out in schools, having a negative result will not prevent people later catching coronavirus, so it is **still very important to continue to follow the Hands, Face and Space guidance and maintain social distancing in order to reduce the chance of being infected**. Regular testing should continue even after being vaccinated, as the vaccination may not protect everybody from catching coronavirus.

Also, if they do catch coronavirus after being vaccinated, they may be asymptomatic, so it is still important to be tested.

LFD home testing is now available to members of a household, childcare bubble or support bubble which contains a person who works in or attends a school (including a child). The twice-weekly tests can be accessed:

- through a person's employer, if they offer testing to employees
- at a local community asymptomatic test site
- by collecting a home test kit from a test site
- by ordering a home test kit online.

Following the announcement that LFTs are to be made available to the adults within households of statutory aged children, these can now be ordered by using the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff> which also provides information as to where the nearest community test sites can be found. I believe they are in Mansfield, Newark and Worksop.

Again, this is a significant development that will help to identify positive cases more quickly, break the chains of transmission and reduce the disruption that so many education settings have experienced in recent months.

Schools are not permitted to give parents test kits from the school's stock and are not part of this process. We will obviously encourage families to get engaged and take up their LFD test kit allocation as it will essentially help us all to stay safe.

Mr Callaghan-Wetton

