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*'Placing learning at the heart of everything we do'*

5 March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

We have had a few questions regarding the:

- Asymptomatic testing information for **parents and adults in households** with children at school or college
- Face masks in Primary Schools

### **Asymptomatic testing**

NHS Test and Trace announced earlier this week, that **all adults in households** with school and college age children without symptoms can now access regular rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing.

Undertaking regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing helps reduce transmission of the virus. **Parents and other adults in households** with children at school or college, who do not have symptoms, can now access regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. This includes childcare and support bubbles

Tests are fast, easy and completely free. There are different ways for a household, childcare or support bubble to collect their test to take at home, twice-weekly:

- through your employer, if they offer testing to employees
- by collecting a home test kit from a local test site – anyone aged 18 or over can collect 2 packs of 7 tests
- **by ordering a home test kit online – please do not order online if you can access testing through other routes, this frees up home delivery for those who need it most. (This seems to be the best option in our area.)**

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.

**Children of primary school age (and below) without symptoms are not being asked to take these tests.**

**If you have children in secondary school, they are taking the tests. The tests will be supplied by the school for the children. Please communicate with your child's secondary school to find out how they are arranging this process.**

### **Face Masks**

Guidance on the use of face coverings in primary schools and early years settings

From Monday 8 March, new advice applies to the use of face coverings by staff, pupils and students in schools and further education in England. Further information can be found in the [guidance for schools](#), [guidance for further education providers](#) and [guidance for early years and childcare providers](#).

In primary schools and early years settings it is recommended that **within the building** staff and invited visitors wear face coverings where social distancing cannot be maintained between adults. These measures will be in place until Easter. As with all measures, we will keep this under review and update guidance as needed.

**Children in primary schools do not need to wear a face covering.**

Hope this helps clear up any queries.

Yours sincerely

*A Marsh-Ballard*

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Headteacher