

Important information to read before you take your COVID 19 test for parents/ guardians of children 11 to 15 years

Harrow Council is offering people without symptoms testing for the COVID 19 virus as one way to control the spread of the virus

Please read this information sheet carefully, it will help you decide if you want your child to take the test.

The test available today is called a Lateral Flow test (LFT test). It tests whether someone has the virus and is likely to pass it onto others. It does not test whether your child has had the virus in the past. It will not tell if your child has recently been exposed to the virus but are not yet infectious

Your child will need to take a swab from the back of their throat and one nostril. This will be explained when you are given the swab. Taking the swab may be uncomfortable but not painful. Once the test has been taken you are free to leave.

The swab will then be processed by one of our trained staff and your result will be texted to your phone in around 45 to 60 minutes. If you don't get a result, please scan your barcode on the card you will be given and recommence the registration.

If your test is positive your child and everyone in your household will need to self isolate for 10 days from today.

If your test is positive your child's details will be passed to NHS Test and Trace who will contact you and ask you to identify everyone your child has been in close contact with during the past two days. These people will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace and advised to self-isolate for 10 days from their last contact with your child. They will be told they have been in contact with someone who has the COVID 19 virus, your child will not be identified.

The test can only look for virus **at the time you test**. It is therefore essential that even if your child tests negative they continue to observe the national COVID restrictions

This test is not perfect – no test is.

It is possible:

1. That the test is VOID.

Unfortunately this means the test was unable to tell if your child has the virus or not. Our testing facility is open every day if you would like to book another test please do so

2. The test is negative but your child has the COVID 19 virus.

This is termed a "false negative". About 1 in every 20 people who have the virus will test negative. It is therefore essential that even if you test negative you continue to follow and observe the national COVID restrictions