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Dear Parent or Carer,

Firstly, can we take this opportunity of thanking you for your continued support in your children's education and learning, whether that has been by keeping your children at home or sending them to school as a contribution to the fight against the Coronavirus. Your child's school has been working hard to welcome back all children from this week. Arrangements will vary slightly from school to school. Your school will have been in touch with you through their normal methods of communication, for example by letter or the school website. The content of this letter and general advice is correct as of the 8<sup>th</sup> March but we know that these things can change.

It is still important that we continue to keep ourselves and others safe. Please, therefore, continue to follow all Coronavirus prevention guidelines maintaining social distancing, including when taking and collecting your child/children from school and wear face coverings wherever possible.

## **Asymptomatic School Testing**

Upon return, secondary school aged children will be offered a series of three tests at their school under the supervision of a trained operator. Testing is voluntary, and consent must be provided for your child directly to the school.

Following on site testing, children may then continue taking twice-weekly tests using a home test kit provided by their school, and you will have received further information about how to participate directly from your school.



The Council is committed to protecting your privacy and ensuring all personal information is kept confidential and safe. For more details see our general and service specific privacy notices at: <a href="https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/global-content/privacy">https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/global-content/privacy</a>

## **Asymptomatic Household testing**

If you're a member of a household with a school aged child, childcare bubble or support bubble of a member of school staff or a pupil you can now access testing twice weekly. This can be accessed in a number of ways, including through your workplace if they are offering this or by getting tested at a test centre near you or you could order a home testing kit to be sent to your home. Further details can be found here:

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff?priority-taxon=774cee22-d896-44c1-a611-e3109cce8eae

Testing is voluntary, but we strongly encourage people to access testing available to them.

For a reminder about Coronavirus symptoms please see page 3.

Please stay safe and thank you for your continued support and the important part you play.

Yours sincerely

COLIN PETTIGREW

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Corporate Director for Children, Young People and Schools JONATHAN GRIBBIN
Director of Public Health

## **General Covid-19 advice**

If you have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), get a PCR test as soon as possible. Stay at home until you get the result.

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a high temperature this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

People who are sick with coronavirus may have other flu like symptoms such as:

- body aches
- persistent headaches
- sore throat
- tiredness
- shortness of breath
- nausea or
- diarrhoea

If you don't have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus, you don't need to selfisolate or get a PCR test, however you do need to continue to take the usual measures to protect yourself and others from illness.

More general information and advice on Coronavirus (COVID-19)