

Date: 25 March 2021

Regular Covid-19 testing available to you and your family

We are writing to:

- thank you for supporting the return to school and college of all children earlier this month
- ask households of children, young people or adults who either attend, or work in, a nursery, school or college to test themselves twice a week
- give you the details of home rapid testing kits now available for collection
- ask for your continued support to keep everyone safe

Thank you

Thanks to everyone's hard work and support, the return to school has gone well, with high attendance levels and positive feedback from staff, students and parents. We know that this has been a worrying time for everyone and we appreciate your commitment to keeping your child and their school community safe. We would encourage all parents and carers to continue to support your child's attendance through the school week.

Regular home testing

Regular home testing for those without symptoms of Covid-19 is available across South Gloucestershire. This is known as rapid testing (using lateral flow devices). This type of testing can identify positive cases of coronavirus that would otherwise go undetected, so that people can self-isolate and break the chain of transmission.

Secondary school and college age children are already being tested regularly. Primary school children are **not** advised to have rapid tests currently. **Anyone** with symptoms should isolate and [book a test](#) on GOV.UK or call 119.

We are asking anyone over the age of 16 whose household, support or childcare bubble includes children or staff in a nursery, primary school, secondary school, or college, to take a rapid home test twice a week.

How to access regular rapid testing

There are several different ways you can get tested regularly:

- 1) You can [order home testing kits](#) for delivery on GOV.UK
- 2) Home rapid testing kits are also now available to be collected from our local testing sites, seven days-a-week, between 1:00pm – 8:00pm (collection is ONLY available between these times as these sites are used for testing in the mornings):
 - Cleve RFC, The Hayfields, Cossham St BS16 9EN
 - Yate Courtside Carpark, BS37 4DQ

Department for Children, Adults and Health

- BAWA Healthcare and Leisure 589 Southmead Road, Filton BS34 7RG
- 3) Kits may also be collected from our rapid testing sites, seven days-a-week, from 8:30am – 5:30pm (to 7.30pm Mon and Weds), at:
 - Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre, Fiddlers Wood Lane, Bradley Stoke BS32 9BS
 - Kingswood Leisure Centre, Church Road BS16 4RH (every day except Tuesday and Thursday)
 - Yate Parish Hall, Station Road, BS37 4PQ

No appointment is necessary to collect kits and individuals may collect a maximum of two boxes of seven kits.

- 4) If you would prefer to do a rapid test at one of our rapid testing sites, where assistance is available, please [book a rapid test](#) online.

Regular testing complements the wide range of prevention and safety measures in place such as the rollout of the vaccine, effective contact tracing when positive cases are detected and everyone following Hands Face Space and other guidance.

By making regular testing part of our routines, we will be able to identify more cases of people without symptoms who could be unknowingly spreading Covid-19 to loved ones and in their communities.

Further information and support

Information on testing and self-isolating, including a quick guide to the different types of Covid-19 testing available and a flowchart explaining when to get your child tested: [Testing and self-isolating | BETA - South Gloucestershire Council \(southglos.gov.uk\)](#)

Schools, education and childcare: www.southglos.gov.uk/return-to-school

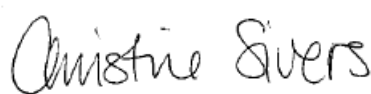
Support for you and your family if you test positive: [Financial support for residents | BETA - South Gloucestershire Council \(southglos.gov.uk\)](#)

General Covid-19 related support: www.southglos.gov.uk/coronavirus

Thank you for your support,



Sara Blackmore,
Director of Public Health



Chris Sivers,
Director for Children, Adults and Health