

Directorate: Adults and Health

Team: Public Health

Dr Will Maimaris Interim Director of Public Health

Date: 16 April, 2021

Your ref:

Our ref: WM/EF

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week has seen us reach a key milestone in our journey out of lockdown, with the reopening of shops, hairdressers and outdoor hospitality along with gyms and other facilities.

In line with the rest of London and the country, infection rates in Haringey continue to fall although, we are still seeing new cases in the borough. This is why, as the economy reopens, it is extremely important to follow the rules to protect your families and the wider community.

Our vaccine programme continues to roll out at pace and to date over 75,000 residents in Haringey have received their first dose. The NHS plans to have vaccinated all the adult population by the end of July and in the intervening months, regular rapid testing is an important tool for us to keep infection rates under control.

Since 9 April, everyone in England (over the age of 11), can get tested twice a week using Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing. It is important that everyone gets tested regularly as around 1 in 3 people with COVID-19 do not experience any symptoms, but they can pass the virus on to others who may become seriously ill.

Getting a rapid test is quick and convenient and it has never been easier to get tested in Haringey.

The expanded regular testing offer for people without symptoms is being delivered through:

- testing on-site at secondary schools and colleges as established since the return to face-to-face learning in March – primary school pupils are still not required to get tested.
- workplace testing programmes, on-site or at home if provided by employers.
- visiting one of Haringey's three rapid testing LFD test centres where you can get tested or pick up a free home test kit no booking needed.
 - 1. 48 Station Road, Wood Green, N22 7TY
 - 2. Tottenham Community Sports Centre, 701-703 High Road, N17 8AD
 - 3. The Transmitter Tower, Alexandra Palace, N22 7AY

Public Health Team
River Park House level 4
225 High Road, Wood Green
London N22 8HQ
www.haringey.gov.uk



- collection at one of Haringey's local PCR test site from 2.30pm to closing time each day:
 - Alexandra Palace, Paddock Car Park, Hornsey Gate, Alexandra Palace Way, N8 7HP
 - 2. Haringey Irish Centre Car Park, Pretoria Road, N17 8DX
 - 3. Stamford Hill Primary School, Berkeley Road, N15 6HD
 - 4. The Chocolate Factory Car Park, Western Road, N22 6XJ
- By ordering a home test kit online by visiting www.gov.uk/order-coronavirusrapid-lateral-flow-tests

For details of opening hours and further information on testing in Haringey, please visit www.haringey.gov.uk/COVID-testing

To collect a test kit from any of the community collect locations, you must be aged 18 or older and be without COVID symptoms – a high temperature, persistent cough, a change to your sense of taste or smell. You can collect a box of 7 rapid tests to use twice a week at home.

You are advised to get into the habit of testing yourself (using your home test kit) at the same times each week e.g., Sunday and Wednesday evenings, or at a time that is convenient for you. Please take time to read the instructions in your test kit carefully.

If testing at home, you will need to register results online by visiting: www.gov.uk/report-covid29-result or by calling 119. You should self-isolate if positive and order a confirmatory PCR test.

Everyone has a role to play in fighting this pandemic – testing is a key part of that so please ensure that you get tested twice a week. In so doing you will be helping protect your loved ones and the wider community, as restrictions ease and we can begin to get back to a more normal life.

Thank you for playing your part in keeping Haringey safe.

Regards,

Dr Will Maimaris

Director of Public Health

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