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For the attention of ALL YEAR 1 Parents and Carers

14th May 2021

Dear Parents, Carers, Families and Children,

Following our telephone call with you today regarding your child, please find below information from the Department of Education (DFE) regarding the next steps following a confirmed case of COVID 19 of a child in your child's teaching bubble.

We have followed the national guidance and following a risk assessment have identified that your child has been in contact with this individual. In line with the national guidance your child must now stay at home and self-isolate until **23rd May 2021** (10 full days after last contact) unless we inform you otherwise. **Home learning will be available on the school website from Monday 17th May 2021. Please complete the online form to register your children's online attendance.**

Please see the latest advice below from Public Health England:
For more information, please see the guidance for contacts of people with confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection who do not live with the person:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person

Testing programme for 'close contacts' of a positive case
As your child has been identified as a contact, it is recommended that they also undertake a PCR test, even if they do not have symptoms. This is to help identify any further transmission (NB: if your child has tested positive within the last 90 days do not get them tested, unless they have symptoms). If you choose to have your child tested, please inform the school of the result. If the result is negative this does **not** release your child from their required 10-day isolation.

To book a PCR test visit https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test and tick *'I have been told by contact tracers to get a test'* or call 119. Full guidance on how to book a PCR test online is attached to this letter.

Undertaking this test will reduce the risk of children returning to school unknowingly infected with Covid-19 and causing further spread in the community.

Furthermore, households of nursery, school and college aged children are strongly encouraged to take part in twice-weekly lateral flow testing. This is because 1 in 3 people have coronavirus without displaying symptoms. If all families participate, it gives our school the best chance of keeping children in school and avoiding an outbreak. For information on how to access lateral flow test kits visit www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests

What to do if your child develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID 19)
Having been identified as a close contact, if your child then develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), they should remain at home for at least 10 full days, with day one being the day after their symptoms appeared. The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are a new, continuous cough, or a high temperature, or a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia). Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing and this can be arranged via https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test or by calling 119.

All other household members must stay at home and not leave the house for full 10 days. This includes anyone in your 'support bubble'.

The 10-day isolation period starts from when the first person in the house became ill, with day one being the day after their symptoms appeared.

Household members should not go to work, school or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home. If you require help with buying groceries, other shopping or picking up medication, or walking a dog, you should ask friends or family. Alternatively, you can order your shopping online and medication by phone or online.

Household members staying at home for 10 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community.

For more information, please read PHE's 'Stay at Home' guidance:
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection

In addition to the main Covid-19 symptoms, if your child develops any of the following symptoms, it is recommended they also arrange a PCR test: loss of appetite, sore throat, extreme tiredness, sneezing, headache, diarrhoea, joint or muscle ache, vomiting, nausea, rash, runny nose or congestion. This is because these other symptoms have also been linked to Covid-19 infection. For more information please visit www.dudley.gov.uk/council-community/emergencies/coronavirus/coronavirus-testing.

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness

If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from the nhs.uk website at https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at https://111.nhs.uk/ or by phoning 111.

How to stop coronavirus (COVID-19) spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with coronavirus (COVID-19):

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards
- when mixing with people indoors, keep rooms well ventilated

As always, if you have any questions or worries, please contact us. We are here for you.

Please be reassured, as a school, we are doing everything we can to keep the whole school community safe and well, and look forward to your return to school on **Monday 24th May 2021.**

Take care,

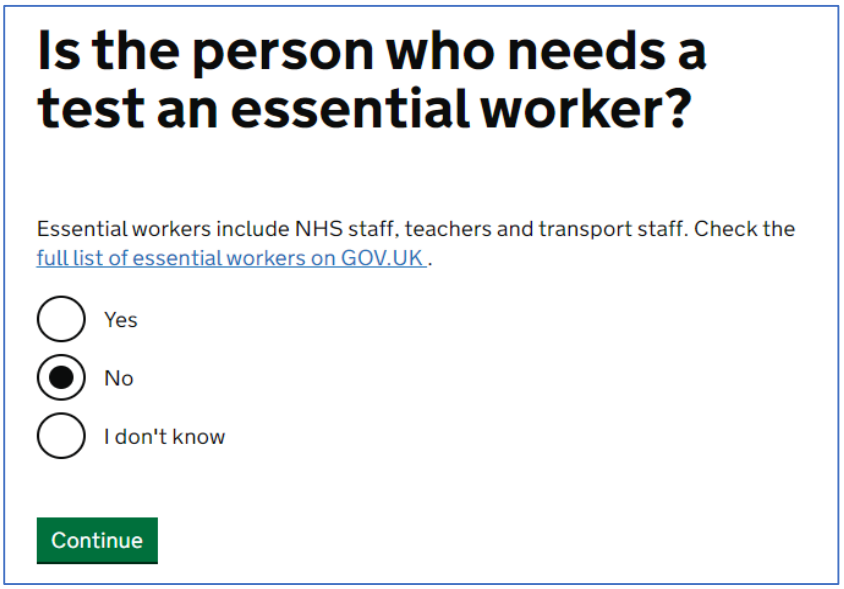
Mrs Parkes x

Further Information

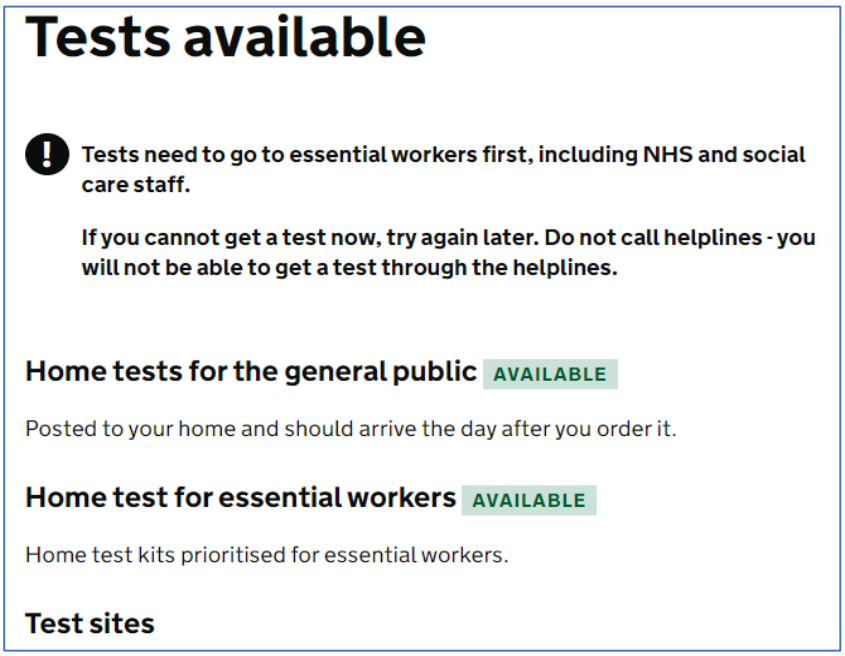
Further information is available at
https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/

How to book a PCR test online if you have been identified as a close contact of a positive case

1. Visit this website: https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test and choose 'Start now' near the bottom of the page
2. Select: "No" the person is not an essential worker



3. Click "Continue" at the bottom of this page



4. Select: “o, none of these symptoms”

Does the person who needs a test have coronavirus symptoms?

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a high temperature
- new, continuous cough
- loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

Most people with coronavirus have at least one of these symptoms.

○ Yes, at least one of these symptoms

◉ No, none of these symptoms

Continue

5. Select: “No” you have not been asked to get a follow-up test

Has the person been asked to get a follow-up test?

For example, their first test was unclear or they need to confirm a possible positive result.

○ Yes

◉ No

Continue

6. Select: “No” you are not part of a trial

Is the person who needs a test part of a trial or government pilot project?

For example, they:

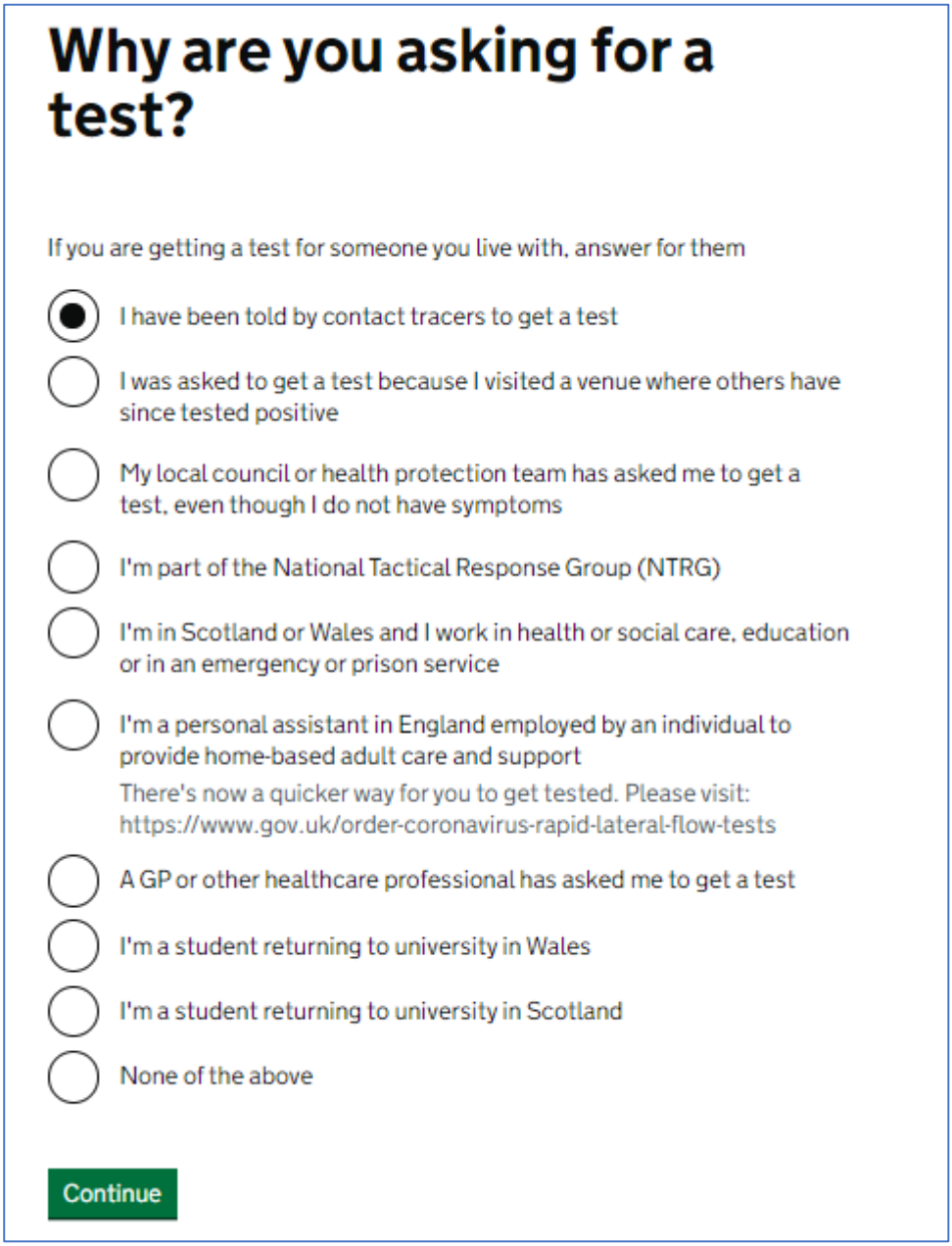
- are attending an event that is part of the Events Research Programme
- were told to get a test by the COVID Symptom Study app (by ZOE)
- are taking a test before a dental procedure (Dental Patient Testing)

○ Yes

◉ No

Continue

7. Select: “I have been told by contact tracers to get a test”



Why are you asking for a test?

If you are getting a test for someone you live with, answer for them

- (●) I have been told by contact tracers to get a test
- ( ) I was asked to get a test because I visited a venue where others have since tested positive
- ( ) My local council or health protection team has asked me to get a test, even though I do not have symptoms
- ( ) I'm part of the National Tactical Response Group (NTRG)
- ( ) I'm in Scotland or Wales and I work in health or social care, education or in an emergency or prison service
- ( ) I'm a personal assistant in England employed by an individual to provide home-based adult care and support
  There's now a quicker way for you to get tested. Please visit: https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests
- ( ) A GP or other healthcare professional has asked me to get a test
- ( ) I'm a student returning to university in Wales
- ( ) I'm a student returning to university in Scotland
- ( ) None of the above

Continue

8. Complete the rest of the form with details.

If you order a home test kit make sure you post this into a priority post-box to return it. You can find where they are located at https://www.royalmail.com/priority-postboxes