

Date: 7 June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Subject: EXTRA TESTING FOR COVID-19

You will be aware that there have been a number of Covid-19 cases within the Park Hill school community recently. Those with symptoms and their contacts have been asked to isolate, however as a further precaution Croydon Council will be working with NHS Test and Trace to carry out extra Covid-19 testing among the whole school community.

By getting tested, you can help us to find cases that might not otherwise be detected. This helps to prevent the virus spreading and protect you and your school community.

From tomorrow (8th June), we are asking all pupils, school staff and everyone in their households, to take a PCR Covid-19 test, whether they have symptoms or not. This includes people who have been vaccinated for Covid-19.

If you have had a positive PCR test for Covid-19 in the last 90 days, you do not need to get tested again now.

We will be offering testing at school for all pupils and their households, and school staff **without symptoms**. This will be via a Mobile Testing Unit (MTU). Parents will need to accompany their children for testing, and you can get tested yourselves at the same time. A suggested timetable will be emailed to you shortly.

The Mobile Testing Unit will be located in the Junior School field car park (Stanhope Road) every day from tomorrow until Monday 14th June. It will be open from 8.30am until 7.30pm on weekdays and 9am-3pm at weekends. The Junior School field car park will be cordoned off from the rest of the school site with a locked gate. You can walk up or drive into the car park, via the field gate on Stanhope Road, and you do not have to book in advance. The gates will be open to allow cars to enter and they will be directed by NHS staff.

People walking in should also enter through the car park entrance, where they will follow a one-way system to the Mobile Testing Unit. NHS staff will direct you.

There will be social distancing measures in place and adults and children over 12 **must** wear a face covering.

What to do if you attend Park Hill Infant or Junior School:

Park Hill Infant and Junior School pupils and members of their households can be tested at school, at the Mobile Testing Unit.

What to do if you work at Park Hill Infant or Junior School:

You can get tested at the school, at the Mobile Testing Unit.

I work at Park Hill Schools, how can my household get tested?

You can pick up home PCR test kits at school to take home for your household to test. Follow the instructions that we will give you to register your test kits and don't post your completed tests - you will need to bring these into school to be sent off for testing. It is important to do this, so that we can see all the results for the school together.

I've recently taken a rapid (lateral flow) Covid-19 test and had a negative result. Do I need to get tested?

Yes. We are asking everyone to take a PCR test now, even if they have recently had a negative rapid (lateral flow) result. This will help us to confirm positive cases quickly, without the need for a follow-up PCR test.

What happens if I test positive?

Anyone who tests positive will be asked by NHS Test and Trace to self-isolate and their contacts will be traced. Please inform the school as soon as possible.

I have Covid-19 symptoms, can I get tested at the mobile testing unit?

No. This extra testing is for people without symptoms only. If you have any of the main Covid-19 symptoms – a new persistent cough, a high temperature, a loss of smell or taste - you should book a test at an NHS test site, in the usual way. You can do this online at www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or by calling 119.

I have recently had a positive PCR test result for Covid-19, do I need to get tested again now?

No. If you have had a positive PCR test result in the last 90 days, you do not need to get tested again now unless you are experiencing symptoms. This is because the test can stay positive for a while after the original infection. If you have tested positive in the last 90 days and are now experiencing symptoms again, then do not attend the Mobile Testing Unit – book a test in the usual way at online. You can do this online at www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or by calling 119. If the new PCR test is positive, you will need to isolate.

My child has been told to self-isolate due to contact with a positive case. Do I bring them into school for testing?

No. If you or any member of your household has been told to self-isolate, for example because their year bubble has closed, do not bring them into school for testing. Please order a home PCR test kit and report the result to the school. You can do this at www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or by calling 119.

Staying safe

You do not need to do anything else – the school can remain open and you should continue to follow the [latest national guidelines](#) on what you can and cannot do.

Everyone should continue the NHS guidance on [social distancing](#). Remember, the best way to stop the spread of Covid-19 is to keep your distance, wash your hands and cover your nose and mouth.

Thank you for your support in keeping Croydon safe,

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Flowers'.

Rachel Flowers
Croydon's Director of Public Health