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Important message for parents about lateral flow testing kits for coronavirus

Lateral flow device testing is a fast and simple way to test people who **do not** have symptoms of coronavirus, but who may still be spreading the virus.

Lateral flow tests should **not** be used by anyone who has coronavirus symptoms. If anyone in your household has coronavirus symptoms they should [Get a PCR test to check if you have coronavirus on GOV.UK](#) or by ringing 119.

If you have been advised by your child's school or childcare setting that your child has been identified as a close contact of a positive coronavirus case they must isolate for 10 days, and you must follow the advice given by the school or childcare setting.

If your child is isolating because they have been identified as a close contact of someone with coronavirus they cannot return to the school or childcare setting before the end of the 10 day isolation period even if they have a negative test result (either PCR or lateral flow).

Lateral flow test kits should **only** be used by the person they were issued to. If you have a child in secondary school who is testing themselves at home the tests must not be used by anyone else in the household e.g. a sibling or parent.

Similarly, if you have access to lateral flow tests through your workplace you should not use these to test your children at home.

Primary school children will not be tested once they return en masse in England, as scientists say there is no evidence of high transmission of the virus among such young age groups.

Public Health are only advising primary school children to have PCR's rather than LFT's.

Yours sincerely

M.Collinson