

Dear Parent / Carer

Date: 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020

**Invitation to get a walk-in or home test for Coronavirus (Covid-19) for those with no symptoms**

On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December we wrote to you inviting pupils aged 11-18 years and their families to get a Covid-19 test. At the time, we were able to confirm testing locations only until today Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December. We now have confirmation of additional walk-in sites over the next four days for pupils and their families to get tested. This applies to you if you do not have any symptoms.

The reason for getting a Covid-19 test is because cases in Havering are the highest in London and the Secretary of State has asked us to test secondary school pupils. Our fight against this virus needs more people to come forward to get a test so we can see how it is being spread. This now includes trying to find people who may have the virus but don't know it.

There are several ways you can get a test. Firstly, you can come to any of the below places for the next four days. You will need to attend the site with your child as parental consent is required to get a test. More walk-in sites will be available and we will confirm the locations as soon as possible.

	9am-3pm	9am-3pm
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Romford Town Hall, Main Road, Romford, RM1 3BB	Coopers Company and Coburn School St. Mary's Lane, Upminster RM14 3HS
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Coopers Company and Coburn School St. Mary's Lane, Upminster RM14 3HS	TBC
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Coopers Company and Coburn School St. Mary's Lane, Upminster RM14 3HS	TBC
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Romford Town Hall, Main Road, Romford, RM1 3BB	Coopers Company and Coburn School St. Mary's Lane, Upminster RM14 3HS

All of the sites are walk-in – you do not need to book to get a test at these sites.

Each site has a limited capacity and are on first-come-first-served so please be aware you may have to queue. If the sites run out of tests you may be asked to go to another site or return for a test on another day.

As well as being able to access these tests for people who do not have symptoms, students aged 11-18 years and their families can also get one via the existing national NHS Test booking system. These tests can be sent to your home. To book a test through one of these routes, please go to <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

As these tests are for people who are not showing any symptoms, you DO NOT need to self-isolate UNTIL and only IF you get a positive test result back.

If you get a positive test result please self-isolate immediately and follow all of the government 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>

If you do have Covid-19 symptoms, please continue to follow all the national guidance to self-isolate and book a test online at the above address or by calling 119.

I realise this is a difficult and confusing message. If we can act now and find people who have and are spreading the virus but don't know it, we can better help our children and families protect the most vulnerable members of our communities.

Kind regards,



**Mark Ansell**  
Director of Public Health

