

# The Mead Infant and Nursery School

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Proud to Belong

29<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to you to remind you of the importance of following the Government guidelines for testing and self-isolation and to confirm the difference between the two types of tests available.

## PCR Tests

If your child or a member of your household develops at least one of the following three symptoms, you should follow Government advice and book a PCR test:

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

PCR tests are the most reliable COVID-19 tests and are processed in a laboratory. You can book an appointment to attend a test centre or in some cases, they may send one to you at home.

## LFD Tests

**LFD tests should not be used if your child or a member of your household has one of the symptoms detailed above.**

These tests are mainly used in people who do not have symptoms of COVID-19 and provide rapid results without the need for analysis in a laboratory. LFD tests are being used to regularly test staff in schools, care homes and the NHS and are also available for people who do not have symptoms but may have household members who attend or work in a school, NHS or care home setting.

Further guidance can be found [here](#).

## Waiting for Test Results



Whilst you are waiting for the outcome of a test, **all members of your household must self-isolate and stay at home and your children must not attend school. This includes siblings of the child who is displaying symptoms.** Children can return to school as soon as a negative test result has been received.

### **Bubble closures**

If your child's bubble has a positive covid case and we close the bubble, your child must self-isolate and stay at home for the full isolation period as they are considered a 'close contact'. They will need to isolate for the full period even if they take a LFD test and it is negative as it can take 7 days for the symptoms to appear.

I cannot stress enough to you how important it is that you follow these guidelines. This will help us keep everyone safe and the school open.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Bedford