

23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2021  
Ref: 000102



## What COVID test should I take? *The difference between 'LFD' and 'PCR' tests*

Dear Parent / Carer,

I wanted to send a letter to clarify the difference between the two different types of testing for COVID-19 that are currently available as we are seeing some confusion.

### **Rapid Lateral Flow Tests (LFD Tests)**

- These tests help to find cases in people who may have no symptoms but are still infections and can give the virus to others (asymptomatic people).
- Tests can be collected from test sites and local chemists or ordered online.
- Tests are to be taken twice a week (every 3 or 4 days)
- **These tests should not be used if you are displaying Covid symptoms**
- Further information can be found [here](#).



### **PCR Tests**

- **This test is to be taken if you are displaying Covid symptoms:** a high temperature; a new, continuous cough; you've lost your sense of smell or taste or it's changed
- This test needs to be booked.
- This test is completed at a test centre or at home.
- Whilst awaiting the test result, the household must continue to isolate.
- Further information can be found [here](#).



Recently, we have had a number of families using LFD home tests to 'rule out' Covid when somebody in the household is showing symptoms. This is not the correct procedure and in doing so is putting everybody in our school community at risk.

Please book a PCR test if anybody in your household (including your child) is displaying symptoms. If you are not sure, please telephone our main school office on 01332 345997 and we will help you.

Kind regards,

Ms. K Leach      Headteacher

**LOVE God   LOVE Neighbour   LOVE Self**

ST. CHAD'S CofE NURSERY & INFANT SCHOOL  
Gordon Road, Derby DE23 6WR  
Tele: 01332 345997  
E-mail: [admin@stchads.derby.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stchads.derby.sch.uk)  
Headteacher: Ms. K Leach

**DDAT**  
Derby Diocesan Academy Trust

