

Special Provision Partnership



Criteria for School Use of Covid-19 Test Kits

The Department for Education (DfE) and Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC) provided all schools with ten Covid-19 home test kits in September 2020. The departments ask that schools produce clear criteria for use of these kits. This guidance is intended to clarify the position of Special Provision Partnership schools in this regard.

The school will only provide a Covid-19 test kit if **all** of the following criteria are met:

- A child or staff member becomes symptomatic whilst on the school site.
- There are significant barriers to the child or staff member accessing a regional, local or mobile test centre or ordering their own home test kit.
- The school reasonably believes that the child or staff member would not receive a test if they were returned home without a kit.

The school **will**:

- Store the test kits at room temperature.
- Advise how to register, take and return the test.
- Keep a log of the reason for handing out a test kit.
- Recommend medical advice be sought from 111 or 999 if necessary.
- Recommend that anyone with barriers to registering their test kit call 119.
- Order more test kits if all 10 are used at: <https://request-testing.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk> using the Unique Organisation Number (UON) emailed to the school in September.

The school **will not**:

- Allow Covid-19 testing on school sites.
- Support anyone to carry out a Covid-19 test.
- Register or return the test on behalf of someone else.
- Compel pupils or staff to provide confirmation of a negative test before admitting staff or pupils back onto the school grounds following isolation.
- Open the grey packaging on any test kit.