

THE RICHARD CLARKE FIRST SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mrs Kay Hanson

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Dear Parent/Carer,

You may have seen in the news recently that Staffordshire LA will be increasing the testing of residents in a bid to identify more cases of Covid-19 and reduce the spread of infection.

They are also expanding their advice around when to get a test.

Currently anyone who has one of the main symptoms of persistent cough, high temperature, new cough or loss of taste or smell must self-isolate immediately and book a test.

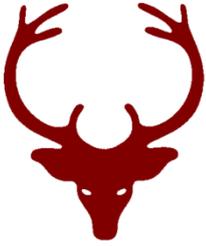
However, with many people displaying other symptoms, the LA are asking residents in Staffordshire to consider getting tested as a precaution if they have other symptoms such as:

- Headaches
- Aches and pains
- Feeling very tired for no good reason
- Sore throat
- Runny nose
- Sneezing
- Sometimes 'tummy ache' in children

People with any of these symptoms can carry on going to school or work if they are well enough to do so and only need to self-isolate if the test comes back positive.

We have been asked to communicate this to parents, as often children with Covid-19 can display different symptoms to adults. They want to ensure as many people as possible consider getting a test, even if it is merely a precaution.

The national testing centres across the county have good availability, and can be booked through the NHS website. <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>
People booking a test through this website need to check the 'My council has asked me to get a test' option.



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Staffordshire also have community testing sites that change on a weekly basis. People can view if there are any sites set up near them by visiting our testing website.

<https://staffordshire.zipporah.co.uk/TrackAndTrace>

Kind regards,

Kay Hanson

Headteacher