

# The Oaks Primary School

Rochester Drive, Ellesmere Port, CH65 9EX 0151 338 2111

[admin@theoaks.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@theoaks.cheshire.sch.uk)

@theoakscp The Oaks Primary School



## Welcome back to all pupils

Good afternoon,

This week we have welcomed many of our pupils back into school. The children have responded to learning really well and many of them have made progress during their time at home. I would like to say thank you for the remote learning support given by parents.

Home learning is still very important. I outlined in the parents meeting on Zoom on Monday, that teachers will be setting maths practice via your child's White Rose maths book and via Mathletics. Children are also expected to access TT Rockstars/ Numbots daily for maths and Bug Club/ MyON daily for reading. Short bursts of learning will make a huge difference in their progress.

Attendance is a concern at present. Today only 88.8% of children are in school. I appreciate that if your child is ill and you suspect coronavirus, that parents are doing the right thing, self-isolating as a family and getting a test. Thank you for keeping our school community safe. For children with persistent absence, Mrs C Roberts and myself will be working with families on making a formal plan for their child to return to full time school.

All families with primary or secondary-aged children can now access lateral flow devices for use at home. I have attached a leaflet that has been released this week to outline the important information you will need to make your decision of whether you will be taking part.

Finally I have attached a letter to all of our children, that I would like you to read to your child. This generation of children will be far more resilient, better at problem solving and are our future and we are incredibly proud of them!

Mrs L Roberts

## Parents evening

Your child's class teacher will be in touch soon as our parents evening is due to take place via Zoom week commencing 19th April. This will be an opportunity for teachers to share with parents where children are against their year group expectations and to set targets going forward.

### LAST LETTER

**Please take note that this will be the last printed newsletter from school. All future newsletters will be sent via email. This is better for the environment and for our school budget.**

### Red Nose Day 2021

As you are probably aware, Red Nose Day is just around the corner. The world needs a life-changing laugh more than ever at the moment, so we would love our school to join in the fun. On **Friday 19th March** we are asking the children to wear a red top in support of Red Nose Day with a donation of 50p that will go to the charity.



Staggered start and end times are in place to prevent gatherings of people at the school gates.

Parking is tight at present but please do not be tempted to double park as buses cannot pass.

# Parents with children at nurseries, schools and colleges

## A guide to regular rapid Covid-19 testing



### Regular rapid testing is now available for parents, their households and bubbles.

Regular rapid testing is a fast and easy way to find out if you have coronavirus and help protect your loved ones and community. It's free and takes around 30 minutes.

### Why introduce regular rapid testing?

Up to 1 in 3 people who have Covid-19 have no symptoms and could be spreading it without knowing.

Regular rapid testing is now available for parents of nursery, school children and college students. As well as adults in their households, childcare and support bubbles.

Regular testing for people without symptoms is already taking place across the country. Thousands of people who didn't know they had the virus have been able to take action to stop the spread of the disease.

As lockdown restrictions ease, getting into the regular habit of twice weekly testing will play an important role in getting back to normal; alongside the vaccine, following the hands, face, space guidance, and social distancing measures.

### Regular testing for school staff and students

Regular rapid testing is already available to all staff at nursery, primary and secondary schools and colleges.

Secondary school and college students aged 11 and above will continue to access regular rapid tests directly through their school or college. And we continue to encourage them to get tested.

On return they will initially be supervised while testing at school and then continue to test themselves at home with test kits they will get from school or college.

Nursery and primary school children are not being asked to be tested as evidence continues to show that children and young people are at low risk from Covid-19 and are very unlikely to get seriously ill.

### What is the benefit to you?

By taking part in regular rapid testing, you'll be protecting yourself and your loved ones. And helping us all get back to a more normal way of life.



### How does it work?

It's a simple swab test you can do at home, school, work or test site, using a Lateral Flow Device (LFD). It takes around 30 minutes to find out if you have the virus.

The test detects viral proteins that are present when someone has Covid-19. Research from Public Health England and Oxford University shows that they pick up the vast majority of people in the most infectious stage of the disease. With up to 1 in 3 people who have the virus showing no symptoms – they could be spreading it without knowing.

Testing should take place twice a week, every three – five days, ideally in the morning. Why not add this to your morning routine?

If you test negative, you can continue to go to work. You should still strictly follow all other government guidelines and avoid all unnecessary contact. If you, your household or bubble test positive, you should all self-isolate immediately. And then the person who has tested positive should also take a confirmatory PCR test and follow latest government guidance.

For more information visit [gov.uk/guidance/understanding-lateral-flow-antigen-testing-for-people-without-symptoms](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/understanding-lateral-flow-antigen-testing-for-people-without-symptoms)



YouTube Introduction to Rapid Lateral Flow testing

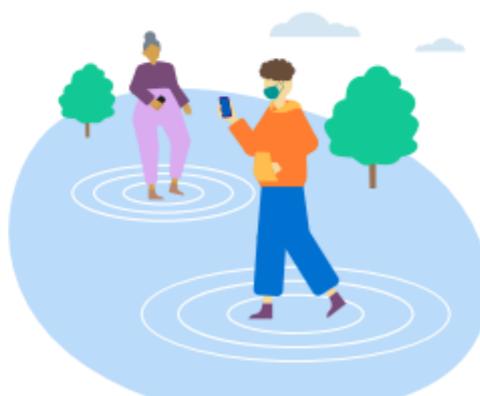


### Reporting your test

You should report your results online straight away, even if your result is negative or void. It's easy to do at: [gov.uk/report-covid19-result](https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result)

Results can also be reported via telephone by calling 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day, 7am to 11pm.

If you have tested positive, you can also check to see if you are eligible for the £500 Test and Trace Support Payment.



### Where can I get tested?

If you are a parent or adult of a household, childcare or support bubble you can either:

1. Get an assisted test at work if it is available.
2. Attend a test site to get tested (where you will be able to see how to take the test) or pick up tests to do at home.
3. Order a test online to do at home.

To find out how to get a free rapid Covid-19 test visit [gov.uk/coronavirus-school-household-testing](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus-school-household-testing)

Regular rapid testing is for those without symptoms of Coronavirus. If you have symptoms, you should continue to book through [nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)

## World Down Syndrome Day

Hello everyone! I just wanted to take the time to let you know about something really exciting coming up. On Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March it is World Down Syndrome Day. This is a day that we are really passionate about here at The Oaks.



get up  
for down's

We will be doing a number of things to get involved and raise awareness about this day. Your child's class teacher will be in touch nearer the time to explain the activities.

On Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March we will be inviting your child to come into school wearing odd socks. We will also be completing some form of exercise as part of the "Get up for Down" campaign.



If you would like to find out anymore information or how you can get involved, please use the following website:

<https://www.cheshiredownssyndrome.com/get-involved/fundraise>

# census 2021

The census is a survey that happens every 10 years and gives us a picture of all the people and households in Wales and England.

The government, local councils, charities and many other organisations use census information to decide how to spend billions of pounds on services every year. This includes spending on transport, education and healthcare. By taking part in the census, you'll help make sure your community gets the services it needs.

To make sure money is spent where it's most needed, it's important that the census counts everyone.

You must complete the census by law. Look out for your pack in the post. It will show you how to complete your census questionnaire. There will be plenty of help for people who need it. Your answers are protected by law and will be kept confidential.

Find out more: [www.census.gov.uk](http://www.census.gov.uk)

National 2021 Census Contact Centre: 0800 141 2021

England NGT (text relay service) (18001) 0800 141 2021

Language helpline: 0800 587 2021

Cheshire West and Chester Council are operating a local Census Support Centre to provide advice and support for completing the census to local residents. The contact number is 0300 123 7728 and the opening hours are Monday - Friday: 9am - 5pm.

