

**Latest 17 July 2020**

## Information about testing for Coronavirus in Rotherham

Rotherham's Intelligence-led testing strategy means that we are testing a wide range of people across Rotherham for COVID-19 to help us to identify where the virus is and pinpoint any areas where there may be pockets of concern.

This strategy has been introduced because our infection rate is still too high, and we need to do more to stop people from getting the virus.

### Key messages in addition to testing

While testing is key, it is equally important that people continue to:

- Maintain social distancing by keeping two metres apart
- Wash their hands often
- Wear a face covering on public transport and in shops.
- Get tested if they have symptoms or have a cause for concern. This could be that they have been in contact with someone who has had a positive test.

### Where can people get tested.

**Mobile Test Unit (MTU)** – suitable for people with cars.

Midland Road old bus depot and Herringthorpe stadium car park

Appointments needed - 10am to 4pm

Book an appointment online [Ask for a coronavirus test on NHS.UK](https://www.nhs.uk/booking)

If a Rotherham site is not offered when you go online, please try again later as new appointment slots are being added all the time.

**A Local Test Site (LTS)** is currently being considered for the town centre of Rotherham. People can walk-up to this site and request a test without an appointment. We will share more information when it becomes available.

### If you have symptoms of COVID-19

People with symptoms, however mild, can use both the online booking system and the 119 to book a test. Symptoms include:

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

When requesting a test, you'll be asked for details such as your name, mobile phone number and address.

If you have symptoms you must isolate at home for seven days and anyone else in your home must isolate for 14 days.

### Home test kits

People can ask for a testing kit to be delivered to them at home. To order a home test kit visit [Ask for a coronavirus test on NHS.UK](#)

The kit will be delivered and collected by a courier so there is no need to leave your home.

You can also call 119 to order a home test kit if you have symptoms of COVID-19.

### What the test involves

The test usually involves taking a swab of the inside of your nose and the back of your throat, using a long cotton bud. You can do the swab yourself or someone can do it for you.

### What does the result mean?

**If you receive a negative result** this means that you did not have COVID-19 at the time you were tested. You must still follow the guidelines and exercise caution to prevent you from getting the virus. This means:

- Maintain social distancing by keeping two metres apart
- Wash their hands often
- Wear a face covering on public transport and in shops.
- Get tested if you have symptoms or have a cause for concern. This could be that you have been in contact with someone who has had a positive test.

**If you test positive for coronavirus** you will need to isolate for seven days.

Members of your household will need to isolate for 14 days.

A contact tracer from the NHS Test and Track Service will call, text or email you to ask who you have recently come into contact with and any places you have visited. Once you have done this, everyone you have identified will be alerted by text or email.

### If you are a contact of someone with COVID-19

If you have been told by the NHS Test and Trace service that you are a contact of someone with COVID-19, and you live in Rotherham, you must get tested, even if you have not been told to do so previously.

This is a special arrangement for people living in South Yorkshire. Also, if you are a known contact you must self-isolate for 14 days even if you get a negative test result as you may still be incubating the infection.

Finally, you should then get tested again on day 12 of your isolation period to check you have not developed Coronavirus.

[Further details can be found on the GOV.UK website](#)