

Interim Schools Test Process



Due to some of the challenges faced with the national testing process through the UK portal (<https://gov.wales/apply-coronavirus-covid-19-test>) in terms of both availability of local access and timescales, we are offering additional local testing provision.

Cardiff & Vale staff and pupils will be able to access the local testing centres (Whitchurch & Splott) that have been operating to support critical workers (including teachers) throughout the pandemic.

To best use the capacity available through this route and maximise impact it is vitally important that referrals are made:

- **Only for symptomatic staff or pupils** with one of more of the following symptoms
 - a high temperature: this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
 - a new, continuous cough: this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
 - a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste: this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal
 - Note: as we are learning more about symptoms especially in children, we will update schools if this changes
- If more than one person in the household is symptomatic then we will test all symptomatic school children/teachers in the household. Anyone else who is symptomatic should self-isolate and seek testing through the national portal unless advised otherwise by the Cardiff and Vale Track, Trace and Protect Service.
- Referrals should come through to the relevant local authority from the school/head teacher and not directly from pupil or parents.

