

THORNTON HEATH NURSERY SCHOOL
Working in partnership with the Pegasus Academy Trust



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Tuesday 9th March 2021

Dear parents and carers,

Re: Brazilian Covid-19 variant in Thornton Heath and South Norwood : Message from PHE

Public Health England (PHE) are asking everyone living in South Norwood and Thornton Heath over the age of 16 to take a Covid-19 test as soon as possible, even if they are not showing symptoms. This includes people who have been vaccinated for Covid-19.

If you live in the area and do not have symptoms:

Mobile testing Units (opening Tuesday 9 March)

- Location 1: Granville Gardens car park, London, SW16 3LL, open 9am-3pm, seven days a week
- Location 2: Samuel Coleridge Taylor Centre, 194 Selhurst Road, SE25 6XX, open 9am-3pm, seven days a week

Please note: appointments must be booked in advance through the council website – you cannot use the national booking system for these tests. Visit the booking site here:

<https://croydon.zipporah.co.uk/MTU/>

Home testing kits

- From tomorrow, home testing kits can be picked up and dropped off at South Norwood Library, Lawrence Road, SE25 5AA or Thornton Heath Library, 190 Brigstock Road, CR7 7JB, from 10am-4pm, Monday–Saturday.

Please note: residents need to wear a face covering and bring a smart phone (if they have one) to register the test and proof of address.

Door-to-door testing

- We are also going door-to-door delivering home test kits to some homes in South Norwood and Thornton Heath. Our teams won't reach everyone, so we're asking people that are able to, to collect a home test kit or visit the Mobile Testing Unit's listed above.

Please note: our home testing kit delivery teams will:

- be fully equipped with PPE and Croydon Council high visibility vests
- maintain a safe distance
- assist as much as possible in administering and registering tests
- have ID stating they are working on behalf of Croydon Council

They will not:

- ask you for any personal details
- request payment for any services
- require access to residents' properties

Other important advice

- People that are clinically extremely vulnerable should continue to follow shielding guidance and not leave their home to get a test.
- **Anyone with coronavirus symptoms should continue to book a test in the usual way at <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> or via the NHS COVID-19 app.**
- Residents who test positive by any method, or have any symptoms, should self-isolate immediately.
- Individuals that have had a positive Covid-19 test in the last two weeks, do not need to get tested now

Staying safe

If you live in South Norwood or Thornton Heath you do not need to do anything else – everyone should continue to follow the [national lockdown restrictions](#) and the NHS guidance on [social distancing](#). You can still leave home for essential reasons – for example to work, if you cannot work from home, to attend medical appointments and to get food and other supplies.

Schools, colleges and nurseries

Schools, colleges and nurseries remain open. There are no instructions for education settings to close in areas where new variants have been identified.

How will test results be used?

Positive tests will be sequenced to identify any further spread of the variant, enabling a better understanding of this particular strand of the virus and identifying if there are any more cases in the area. The more cases of the variant we find, the better chance we have at suppressing it. Please help to keep our communities safe by sharing this important message and getting tested if you live in the affected area.

How long will additional testing be available?

Additional testing will be carried out for two weeks and we are asking people to have one test during this time.

Thank you

Thank you all for your ongoing support – together we can keep ourselves and our loved ones safe.

For more information please visit www.croydon.gov.uk/CovidTest

Rachel Flowers,
Director of Public Health