

# BOLTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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April 17, 2022

Dear Families and Staff,

I hope you enjoyed April break and the holiday. Please see below for some important reminders and updates.

## **Test before Returning to School on Monday, April 18<sup>th</sup>**

To keep our school communities safe after the April break, we are asking all students and staff to test for COVID-19 before returning to school on Monday, April 18th, regardless of vaccination status. Students and staff can test through a PCR, lab-based rapid test, or a home test kit. Staff members are asked to follow the same protocols listed below for students.

When should my child take the tests?

- **First test on Sunday, April 17:** Please help your child take one of the COVID tests provided on the evening of Sunday, April 17th.
- **Second test:** If your child is symptomatic and tests negative on Sunday, please help your child take the second test 48 hours later on Tuesday evening, April 19th. If your child is symptomatic, they need to remain home until they take the second test or have an alternative diagnosis from a medical professional.
- If your child tests negative and feels well, they should come to school on Monday, April 18th. If your child tests positive, please see the information below.
- Please note, if your child has recovered from a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the last 90 days, they do not need to take a test and should attend school on Monday, April 18th, if they are feeling well.
- Staff and students are not required to show proof of a negative test result before being allowed to return to school.

What should I do if my child tests positive on one of the tests?

- Please inform the school nurse and isolate your child for five days. Your child may return to school on the sixth day if they have no symptoms or if their symptoms are improving (including being fever-free for 24 hours without the use of medication) and your child must wear a well-fitting mask while at school through the tenth day after their positive test.

Where can I find instructions about the test kit?

- The test kits come with printed instructions that you should follow when administering the test.

## **Test to Treat**

As part of the newly launched nationwide [Test to Treat](#) initiative, residents can get tested for COVID-19, and if they are positive and treatments are appropriate for them, can obtain a medication from a health care provider, all in one location. Connecticut currently has more than 40 Test to Treat sites, which are located at select pharmacies, urgent care centers, and federally qualified health centers throughout the state.

Residents also may visit their primary care provider who also can prescribe a COVID-19 therapeutic. A web-based site [locator](#) is now available to make it easier to find Test to Treat locations. Those who may have difficulty accessing the internet or need additional support locating a Test to Treat site can call 1-800-232-0233 (TTY 1-888-720-7489) to get help in English, Spanish, and more than 150 other languages – 8 am to midnight ET, seven days a week.

## **COVID-19 Self-Test Kits**

For those looking for access to more self-test kits, visit the federal website <https://www.covid.gov/tests> to order free at-home testing kits. As of March 2022, households are eligible to order a total of eight kits. If you already ordered four kits in January and/or February, you are eligible to order four more.

## **State Supported Testing Sites**

There are currently 23 State Supported COVID-19 testing sites located throughout Connecticut. These testing sites are drive-through and/or walk up and no appointment is needed. Additionally, there is no cost for the testing. The locations and hours of each State Supported testing site can be viewed at [ct.gov/coronavirus](http://ct.gov/coronavirus).

Lastly, we ask that all students and staff continue to screen for symptoms daily. Thank you for doing your part to keep COVID-19 out of our schools.

Stay safe and be well,

*Kristin B. Heckt*

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Superintendent of Schools