

## Newsletter Test streets: Corona tests in children

Dear parent/carer, in this letter we inform you about corona tests in children.

### When to test?

- In case of mild complaints:
  - Runny nose, cold, sneezing, and sore throat
- In case of serious complaints:
  - a lot of coughing, fever, or shortness of breath

**Exception:** Children who have asthma, hay fever or chronic respiratory complaints do not need to be tested if they have no other complaints.

- Without complaints:
  - after close contact with someone with corona
  - preferably as soon as possible
  - but in any case on or after the 5th day after contact has been made.

### Note: If you don't get your child tested if they have symptoms?

- Then your child can only go back to childcare or school if it is completely complaint-free for 24 hours. **Exception:** children from 0-4 can go to childcare if they only have a nose cold.
- Does your child have mild symptoms and do these mild complaints persist? Then your child can only go back to school or care after 7 days at home.
- If your child **is also** in close contact, the quarantine will remain for 10 days.

### Note: Has your child just had corona?

Will your child get symptoms again within 8 weeks? Then he/she doesn't have to be retested. Re-contamination is rare. So testing in the first 8 weeks after an infection does not make sense. That is why children can go to school with complaints if they get them within 8 weeks after an infection.

### How do we test children on the test street?

The standard method is the nose and throat smear: with a cotton swab, some mucus is removed from the pharynx and/or nasal cavity. In most cases, this happened in a few seconds.

### How do you prepare your child?

- In neutral words, tell your child what's going to happen and how long it's going to take (about 30 seconds)
- Also tell them what the protective clothing of the test staff looks like
- For example, watch and discuss this video of GGD Groningen together:  
[https://youtu.be/k1YVvK0\\_Lw3U](https://youtu.be/k1YVvK0_Lw3U)
- Arrive well in time and make sure you can go to the test street quietly.

- Make sure you don't have any other kids with you.
- Make sure you know where to be and how to get there. If you are in a hurry or distracted it causes anxiety for you and your child.
- Speak calmly and calmly. When you radiate peace and confidence, it helps your child.

## Where to test?

The test streets include in Badhoevedorp, Haarlem and Beverwijk. Until 15 March also in Vijfhuizen. When making the appointment, you can indicate your preference.

### How to make an appointment

- Children 0 to 6 years: as a parent/carer you make an appointment via GGD Kennemerland via 023 789 1631, available Monday to Friday from 8.30 am – 8 pm and on weekends from 10.00 am – 5.00 pm.
- Children 7 to 11 years old: as a parent/carer you make an appointment via the national number 0800 – 1202, available daily from 8.00 am to 8.00 pm.
- Children 12 to 17 years old: as a parent/carer you make an appointment via the national number 0800 – 1202, available daily from 8.00 am to 8.00 pm. Then your child must come on the phone to also give permission for the appointment.
- Children aged 16 and 17 can call the national number 0800 – 1202 themselves.

Does your child have DigiD? Then you can also [make an appointment online](#). On the [website of the Central Government](#) you can read more about making an appointment for a test. Please note: Requesting a DigiD may take several days.

## The test street



Maybe you're anxious to get your child tested? Or maybe your child is scared himself. Tell this at the teststreet! Then we can take this into account by, for example, taking a little more time for the explanation and the test.

### If the test fails

- We're not going to make a second attempt. This is to prevent a negative experience for your child
- Do you still want a<sup>2nd</sup> test or do you want to consult? Call GGD Kennemerland 023-7891612 when you get home. A nurse infectious disease control will discuss with you what is possible.
- Does your child have any class?  
Then your child can go back to childcare or school if it is **24 hours complaints-free**.
- Does your child have mild symptoms that last a long time: (Runny nose, cold, sneezing and sore throat Your child may be quarantined 7 days after the 1st day of illness and therefore back to school
- Is your child in quarantine?  
Then the quarantine lasts 10 days.

## FAQs

- **Can I choose which test is taken in the test street?**  
No, in the test streets we use the throat and nose smear method.
- **Why don't we do a saliva test?**  
This does not always yield enough usable material. It often takes longer than 15 minutes to collect enough saliva. This test is not currently being used on our test streets.
- **Spitting in a tube/container, is that also possible?**  
No, this method has not yet been sufficiently researched to use in our test streets.
- **Is a bladder test(e-Nose)already possible for my child?**  
No, this test is not yet suitable for children.
- **Are child-friendly testing methods being investigated?**  
Yes, research is being carried out on the reliability of mouthwash, a smear of the front part of the nose and a bladder test (e-Nose).
- **Is a test mandatory?**  
No, a test is not mandatory.
- **As a parent, are you obliged to give a test certificate to school?**  
No, school can't make this mandatory.

## Information about Corona infection and contagion in children.

- [Corona and childcare: information for parents | Coronavirus COVID-19 | Rijksoverheid.nl](#)
- [Children, school and COVID-19 | RIVM](#)
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## Questions about COVID-19?

Customer contact centre corona 023-789 1631

- Monday to Friday from 08:30 - 20:00
- Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 - 17:00.

Best regards,

**Department of Infectious Disease Control GGD Kennemerland**

