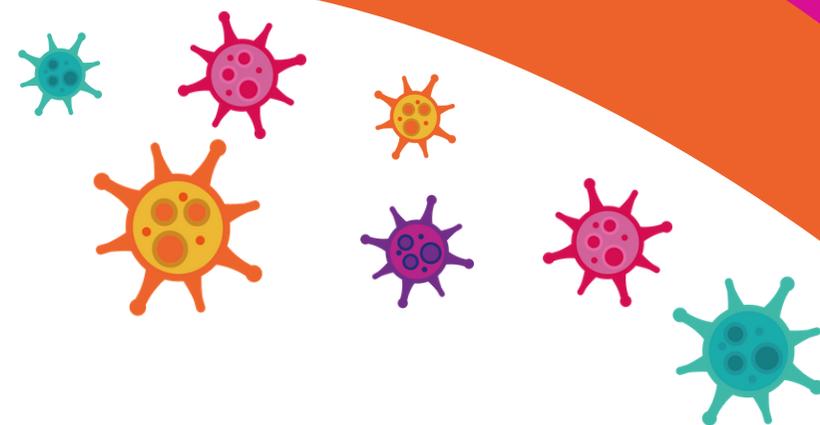


Testing for  
COVID-19



SEND resource pack

Parents and Carers OVERVIEW

## Hampshire and Isle of Wight (HIOW) Saliva Testing Programme

### Parent and Carer Guide: Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

#### Resources

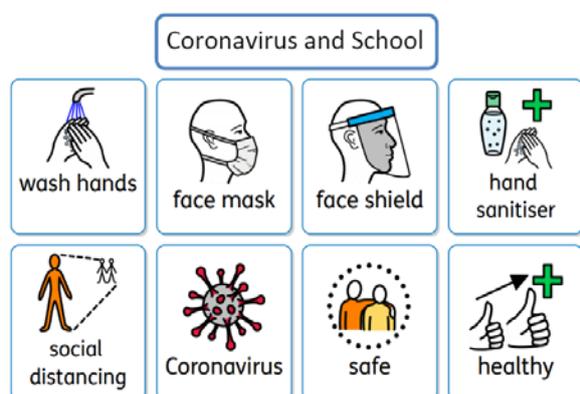
The Coronavirus outbreak has meant that parents and carers of young people with SEND are often facing uncertainty, challenging circumstances, and continually changing guidance and advice on how to stay safe. The HIOW Saliva Testing Programme aims to not only provide a reliable and non-invasive test that can give reassurance to participants and their parents or carers, but also a wraparound service including resources and support to promote understanding, alleviate anxiety and help in understanding the science behind health messages.

As the Saliva Test is taken at home, in the morning before school, we wanted all of the SEND resources that have been developed to be available to Parents and Carers alongside teachers and school staff so that they can be available when and where the test takes place.

The resources that are available here are being continually reviewed and added to, in order to reflect changing situations, research and understanding of Coronavirus. The resources are not limited to the Saliva Test alone, but cover topics such as COVID-19 at large, vaccination, transmission, and the science behind common health messages, such as Hands, Face and Space. Most recently topics such as variants and lockdown easing have been addressed to reflect changing circumstances.

The resources available are in a range of formats and styles, in the hope that users can access resources which are already familiar in this regard. The resources have also been made with a wide range of abilities and levels of development in mind, in the hope that they can be applicable to both a wide age range and spectrum of need.

Below are some examples of the resources that are currently available. These are being continuously added to and expanded. To see all the resources which are currently available please see our website, <https://www.lifelabonline.org/> where all SEND resources are available in the 'Parents and Carers' section. All the resources are available to freely download as PDFs and can be printed. If you would like printed resources but do not have access to a printer, please speak to a member of staff at school and they will assist you.



#### **Flashcard Sets:**

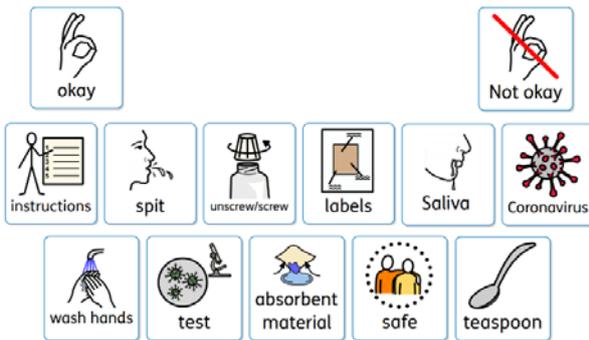
Flashcard sets have been created to aid communication around a number of topics relating to COVID-19. There are sets relating to COVID-19 and school, Saliva testing, Lateral Flow testing and also a set addressing emotions that may be felt in relation to COVID-19 and testing. These have been formatted to assist easy and quick cutting out to have a set of separate cards or can be used as a sheet directly.



**Symbol Assisted Stories:**

Symbol Assisted Stories have been made to provide clear information in a format that is inclusive and accessible. They are on a range of topics, including COVID-19 at large, testing, safe practices, vaccination, variants, and lockdown easing. Symbols have been placed on keywords to aid comprehension and all symbols have a range of skin tones to ensure inclusivity.

Saliva Testing - Symbol Assisted Talking Mat



**Talking Mats:**

Talking Mats have been made as a further aid to communication. These may either be enlarged and cut up to be used on the wall or any place the user feels comfortable or used as a sheet directly. There are currently Talking Mats to address both Saliva Testing and Lateral Flow testing.

**Emma and the saliva test**



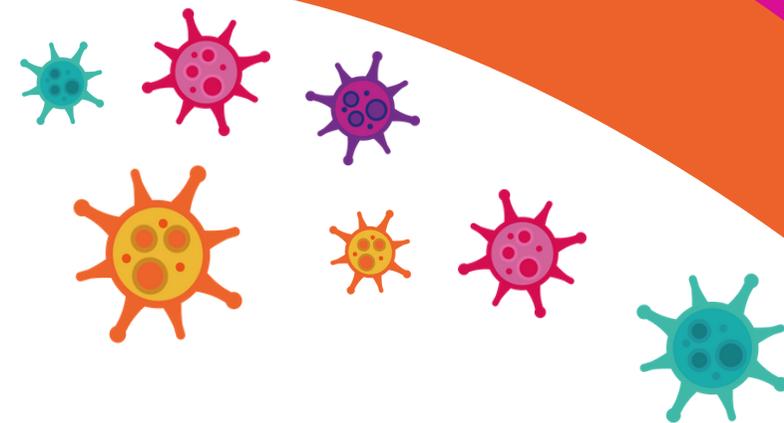
**Social Stories:**

Social stories have been written to address a range of topics, including COVID-19 at large, testing and managing anxiety about the pandemic. They are in a range of styles, some using cartoon characters, others using photographs and some using symbols. There are also 'Praise Stories' which are symbol assisted short stories praising positive behaviour and safe practices.

**Cartoon Q and As**

Cartoon Q and As have been made in order to answer some of the questions children and young adults may have about COVID-19 and testing. They are in the form of a dialogue between a student and a scientist from the testing lab. The cover topics such as the value of testing and why testing continues after lockdown has ended.

These examples of the resources currently available are being continuously adapted and added too. We believe the Saliva Test is an intrinsically inclusive testing method and we hope moving forward to make the programme as inclusive and engaging as possible for all participants. We hope these resources are useful and we will continue to work to enable understanding, engagement and pride in having taken part in the HIOW Saliva Testing Programme.



Resources co-created with and from an original concept by LifeLab, based at the University of Southampton, Southampton Education School and NIHR Southampton Biomedical Research Centre. The views expressed are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the NIHR, or the Department of Health and Social Care.