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Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

COVID-19 – how testing can help manage the risk to your business

Regular, rapid COVID-19 testing is an essential part of helping us manage risks as we learn to live and work alongside the virus. Planning ahead can help to keep your staff, your customers and your business safe.

Almost 1 in 3 people with coronavirus don't show any symptoms so it's important people test regularly to help stop the spread. Twice weekly rapid tests are available for people who cannot work from home. The tests give results within 30 minutes so can be done quickly at home or in work.

Businesses with 10 or more employees who can't work from home can get free rapid COVID-19 tests by joining the Welsh Government's workplace testing programme.

What workplace testing programme offers:

- Regular asymptomatic testing capacity at work that offers both supervised testing sites and self-test kits.
- Regular testing of employees to find and isolate positive cases quickly and prevent further transmission, this usually includes the workforce being tested once or twice a week.
- Provides reassurance to the workforce who are unable to work from home.



Businesses that are using rapid COVID tests

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The Red Boat Ltd – ice cream parlour, north Wales

COVID-19 testing allows us to quickly identify any infections within our team and take swift and effective action. Just as importantly, it gives staff and their families the confidence to know that they are working in a safe and protected environment. Our customers will know that they are bringing their families into a safe environment when they enter one of our outlets.

I believe that workplace testing is benefitting our business by increasing customer confidence and by avoiding what could be a catastrophic outbreak of COVID-19 within our workforce.

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Milford Haven Port Authority

Keeping our staff safe has been our top priority throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. As we run a business-critical operation, many of our teams are designated essential frontline workers with some working in high risk settings. Welsh Government workplace testing support and advice helped to provide us with effective solutions, resulting in a 79.6% uptake in the first month alone. The programme has continued to gain momentum, allowing us to keep our staff as safe as possible and ensuring business continuity for nationally critical operations; in turn, it has helped UK energy and goods supplies run efficiently during the pandemic.

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How to join the workplace testing programme

You can find more information about the workplace testing programme on the Welsh Government website:

www.gov.wales/covid-19-workplace-testing-framework

Or you can email the team:

Covid19.WorkplaceTesting@gov.wales

How smaller businesses can get free rapid tests

If your business has less than 10 employees who can't work from home, your staff can order rapid self-test kits online or collect from their nearest collection point:

www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests.

Get tested to keep Wales safe.

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