

Getting Tested for Covid-19

Remember:

- Please, in the event of any absence, let us know the reason so we can assist you. Do not wait until we ask you why your child is absent. Be proactive and send a message on the Remind app the moment anyone in the household is showing symptoms.
- If your child is exhibiting symptoms of a contagious illness, such as coughing or runny nose, please keep your student home. Not only does this help prevent the spread of Covid-19 to other students and our staff, but it also helps prevent the spread of flu, RSV and other illnesses. If you or one of your other children are experiencing symptoms, you should stay home. Get your student tested for Covid-19.
- Remember, if your student has a negative Covid-19 test, he can return to school within 24 hours, *as long as symptoms are improving and there's no other contagious illness.*
- Covid tests are free. You should *never* pay for Covid testing, as the cost is covered by the government.

WAYS TO GET TESTED

If you cannot drive to get a test, please call! A representative from the Meck County Health Department will speak with you! There are three representatives that work for the county that speak Spanish. One is **Mariana Esposito**. She said she would be happy to speak to anyone who needs assistance. Mariana speaks both Spanish and Portugese and she is very sweet. Simply call the health department at the number below and press Option 8 to speak to Mariana!

980-314-9400 (Option 8 for Spanish)

mariana.esposito@mecklenburgcountync.gov

- Did you know you can order a free Covid-19 test at home, through the CDC or Quest Diagnostics? They simply mail the test and you send it back and receive the results in the mail. The entire process takes less than a week! Free mail in test available for NC residents:
<https://www.pixel.labcorp.com/nc>
- Perhaps the easiest and fastest way to access the free rapid test is through your pharmacy. For example, CVS and Walgreens have drive-thru testing.
 - CVS: <https://www.cvs.com/minuteclinic/covid-19-testing>
 - Walgreens: https://www.walgreens.com/findcare/covid19/testing?ban=covidfy21newtestingpg_travel&lang=en_US
- Tests are available at urgent cares or hospital emergency rooms, although doctors do not recommend that you go to the emergency room for Covid testing, because there are so many other options available that do not tie up emergency medical resources.
- Your primary care doctor can do a rapid test during an office visit.
- **NEW!!!!!!** Testing is available at Charlotte Mecklenburg Public Libraries via curbside pickup! Read more here:
<https://www.mecknc.gov/news/Pages/County%20Expands%20COVID-19%20At-Home%20Test%20Kit%20Distribution%20Program.aspx>

If you exhaust all other options just please call Mrs. Jama who will arrange a translator and assist you in obtaining a test at home!

La Escuelita San Marcos follows the same public health guidance as CMS public schools.

NC StrongSchools Toolkit (ENGLISH):

<https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/media/164/download>

NC StrongSchools Toolkit (SPANISH):

<https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/media/410/download?attachment>