

Please read this important information - Antigen Test Kits

The Government has announced that Royal Mail will be a key partner in the delivery and return of coronavirus tests to NHS and social care frontline staff. This new initiative will enable NHS staff to do a coronavirus test at home, and then return their sample for testing.

These samples have a forty-eight-hour life span, so it is critical that they are collected and moved through our network at pace. Key workers will post their sample into one of 13000 priority post boxes by 9am during Monday to Friday only. We should see them in post boxes from Thursday.

What the test kits packaging looks like:



Process to follow for collecting these items:

1. Open the box as per normal process and scan the barcode
2. If any of the test kits are in the box, carefully isolate the item into a single plastic bag and seal the top
3. Place item into a Letter tray or separate mail sack for transportation to the Mail Centre
4. If the outer packaging is torn or broken, use the bag to pick it up but do not put it into the tray/bag with other items for processing. Place it in a separate bag and hand it over for safe disposal when you reach the collection hub or plant
5. Upon receipt of these items at a collection hub where segregation takes place, these items should be placed into a separate T24 tray so that they can be easily identified for processing when they reach the plant.
6. If using bags, tie them with a blank bag label and write "KITS" on the label so that they can be easily identified and routed straight to the Manual Tracked processing area upon arrival at the plant.
7. Place bags/trays of these items at the top of Yorks so that they can be accessed and processed as a priority upon receipt at the plant and kept separate for hand scanning.

Please note that in the event of a self-test kit being found in a Delivery Office outside of this process, then the item must be bagged on site and forwarded appropriately without delay.

To ensure we are doing everything possible to keep you safe, we are issuing you with plastic bags so you don't have to touch these items on collection. Please follow the advice below.

1) Pull the bag over your hand inside-out (like you see servers do at the fish counter).



2) Pick up the item with your bagged hand.



3) Pull the rest of the bag over the item with your free hand and seal the bag. Place the bag into a separate tray or bag so that these items can be quickly passed to processing when they reach the plant.

