

## **An important message from St Helens Borough Council about COVID-19**

We are asking everyone to get a COVID-19 test before and after attending events.

COVID-19 rates in St Helens Borough are now low, thanks to people following the rules and getting vaccinated, and we want to keep them that way. Regular symptom free testing using Lateral Flow tests are one of the ways we can help keep on top of our rates, as they help to detect cases among people without symptoms or before they develop.

We're sure you're delighted to be attending Haydock Racecourse for an exciting day of racing. To help you enjoy the day as safely as possible we are asking you to take a symptom free test the day before you attend the racecourse, to help reduce the risk of any potential spread of COVID-19.

In addition to this we are also asking you to take two further tests following your visit to the racecourse. These will need to be the next day and again five days after your visit. This is to ensure that you continue to be symptom free.

Contact details will also be available to NHS Test and Trace to ensure everyone can be traced in the event of a positive test.

A full refund will be available for anyone who has purchased tickets but can't attend a meeting due to a positive COVID-19 result, or if they have been informed that they have come in to contact with someone who has tested positive.

Can we please remind you that anyone self-isolating, for whatever reason, should not attend a race meeting, this includes;

- If you or anyone in your household has recently returned from any country on the red or amber list in the last 10 days
- If you have any symptoms of COVID-19 (a high temperature, a new, continuous cough or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste)
- If you've tested positive for COVID-19
- If you've been told you've been in contact with someone who tested positive by NHS Test and Trace or the NHS COVID-19 app
- Someone in your household has symptoms or has tested positive for COVID-19

At home COVID-19 testing kits will be given out to everyone attending a race meeting, at the end of the day, for testing to be completed at home the next day and five days after your visit. It is very important that you upload the result of each of your tests as this will help us to reduce the spread of the virus and help protect others. You can tell us your results by going to [www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result](https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result) or by calling **119** between 7am and 11pm.

If you live in St Helens Borough you can get a test at our symptom free testing centres, with no need to book, at St Mary's Market and Chester Lane Community Centre Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 6pm and 10am to 3pm at weekends. To find out where your nearest testing centre is visit [www.gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

You can also collect test at home kits at these centres, our mobile testing van which is out and about at weekends, at a local pharmacy or order one online at [www.gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus) subject to availability.

Lateral flow tests are free and simple to use, and only take 30 minutes to complete.

To find out more about symptom free tests visit [www.sthelens.gov.uk/letsgettested](https://www.sthelens.gov.uk/letsgettested)