

Frequently Asked Questions for Parents relating to COVID-19

Q. What are the COVID-19 symptoms in children?

- **High Temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back and are running a temperature above 37.8C
- **A new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours.
- **A loss or change to sense of smell or taste** – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

Q. My child had some symptoms for COVID-19 but the test results were negative what should I do?

Contact your school. As long as no-one else in the household has tested positive or has symptoms then discuss with a member of the Senior Team when your child can come back to school.

Return to school if your child feels well enough to do so.

Q. My child has COVID-19 symptoms what should I do?

Do not allow your child to go to school. From when their symptoms start they are expected to self-isolate for up to 10 days while they wait for COVID-19 test result.

- Contact your school to inform them
- Contact NHS 111 for advice
- Self-isolate the whole household for 10 days
- Get a COVID-19 test as soon as possible
- Rest and recover

Inform the school immediately about any test and results.

Return to school after a minimum of 10 days and when your child feels well enough. Even if they have a cough or loss of smell/taste as these symptom can last for several weeks.

Q. My child had some symptoms and then tested positive for COVID-19, what should I do?

Do not allow your child to come to school. Self-isolate the whole household for 10 days even if a sibling in the household gets a negative test during this 10-day period they cannot return to school before the 10 days has ended as they may be incubating.

- Contact your school to inform them
- Agree an earliest date for possible return to school
- School will be contacted by Public Health England (PHE) and it is probable that they will advise the year group bubble or those who have been in close contact with your child to self-isolate
- The school will support your child with remote learning providing they are well enough

If your child still feels unwell (such as a fever) after 10 days, continue to self-isolate and seek medical advice.

Your child may return to school after a minimum of 10 days and then when your child feels well enough. Even if they have a cough or loss of smell/taste as these symptom can last for several weeks.

Q. My child is ill with symptoms not linked with COVID-19.

- Follow the normal absence procedure
- Rest and recover

Your child may return to school when they feel better. With stomach bugs please wait until after 48 hours following the last bout of sickness/diarrhoea if this is the cause of absence.

Q. Someone in my household has COVID-19. Symptoms, what should I do?

Do not allow your child to go to school. Self-isolate the whole household for 10 days from the day their symptoms started or until that person's test comes back negative.

- Contact your school
- Household members should get tested immediately
- The school will support your child with remote learning if the test is delayed

Your child may return to school only when that person in the household has a test that comes back negative.

Q. Someone in our household has tested positive for COVID-19, what should I do?

Do not allow your child to go to school. Self-isolate for a minimum of 10 days from the start of the household members symptoms. Even if your child tests negative in this time they cannot return to school.

- Contact your school immediately
- Agree on the earliest date for possible return
- Self-isolate the whole household
- Your school will support the student with remote learning

Your child may return to school once they have completed 10 days of isolation.

Q. NHS Track and Trace has identified my child has been in close contact with someone who has confirmed COVID-19.

Do not allow your child to go to school. You will be asked to self-isolate for 10 days from the date you were last in contact with that person.

- Contact your school immediately
- Agree an earliest date for possible return minimum of 10 days.
- The rest of the household does not need to self-isolate if they have no symptoms
- Your school will support your child with remote learning

Your child may return to school once they have completed 10 days of isolation.

Q. We/my child has travelled and has to self-isolate as a period of quarantine. What should we do?

Do not send your child to school until after the minimum of 10 days from return date.

- Self-isolate the whole household
- Consider quarantine requirements and Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) advice when booking travel
- Returning from a destination where quarantine is needed, agree an earliest date for possible return.

Your child may return to school once the 10 day quarantine period has been completed.

Q. We have received medical advice that my child must resume shielding. What should we do?

Do not send your child to school.

- Contact your school to let them know
- Keep in contact with your school until you have been informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again.
- The school will support your child with remote learning

Your child may return to school once the NHS informs you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school.

Q. My child's school bubble has closed due to a COVID-19 outbreak in school. What should I do?

Do not send your child to school. Your child will need to self-isolate for 10 days and will not be able to return even with a negative test result.

- Your school will support your child with remote learning
- The rest of the household does not need to self-isolate if they have no symptoms

Your child may return to school once the school informs you when the bubble will be re-open.

Q. Why has my child not been sent home from school when there is a positive case at their school?

The operating processes and risk assessment measures which have been put in place by our schools, are very much designed to ensure that when a positive COVID-19 case is reported, we are able to contact trace against groups of children and therefore send home only those who have been identified as being in close contact with the individual. This is to keep the number of children who need to be sent home and self-isolate to an absolute minimum, and help maintain best possible continuity of education.

Q. Where can I find more information on COVID-19 in children?

- Further information about COVID-19 in children can be found by following this NHS link:

[NHS Coronavirus in children](#)

- Further information accessing a COVID-19 test can be found by following this Devon County Council link:

[Devon County Council Access to Coronavirus Testing](#)