

Covid-19: The symptoms and actions we will take

Staying away from school

Any member of the school community should not come into school if they:

- Have one or more coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms.
- Have tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) in the last 10 days.
- Are in a household (or support bubble) with individuals who have been tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) in the last 14 days.
- Have been contacted through the NHS Test and Trace programme and been advised to stay at home.

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- high temperature
- new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Please note that, although we will always try to work with families, the government has stated that in the event of the school and parents disagreeing over whether a child with symptoms of Covid-19 can attend school, schools can refuse to allow the child to attend until they have had a negative test.

What we will do if someone has Covid-19 Symptoms in school

Where a member of the school community has symptoms developed whilst in school we will:

- Send the person home if they develop a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or have a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia).
- Contact the parents or carers of the children/young person affected to arrange for them to be collected.
- Whilst the student is awaiting collection, they will be taken to a room where they can be isolated behind a closed door - appropriate adult supervision will be provided.
- If more than one person develops symptoms, they will be isolated separately
- If the individual with symptoms needs to go to the bathroom while waiting to be collected, they will use a separate bathroom
- The school will inform the individual and their parent/carer that they must book a COVID-19 test immediately by phoning 119 or through the online portal, and that the individual must notify the school of the outcome of the tests immediately. The school will support in booking the test if required.

The person sent home should:

Follow [‘stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection’](#)

Self-isolate for at least 10 days and until well (including no fever for 48 hours). The result of the test may change this isolation period a little (see below for test results)

Other members of their household (including any siblings) should:

- Self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms. The result of the test may change this isolation period a little (see below for test results)
- Arrange to have a test if they develop COVID-19 symptoms

Following the test result:

- a) Following a NEGATIVE test result: If the person with symptoms tests negative for COVID-19, they are allowed to return to school if they are well, including not having a temperature AND all in their household who have COVID-19 symptoms have also tested negative. (This is important as there remains some risk of false negatives). Their household can also stop isolating if those criteria are met. The only exception to this is if the individual tests negative and they are a contact of a confirmed case, in which case they need to continue to self-isolate for the full 14 days, as they are a contact of a confirmed case.
- b) Following a POSITIVE test result: The person should follow the 'stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection' and must continue to self-isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of their symptoms and then return to school only if they are well (and have not had a high temperature for 48 hours) - note that symptoms of a cough or loss of sense of smell/ taste may persist, as they can last for several weeks once the infection has gone. The 10-day period starts from the day when they first became ill. Other members of their household should continue self-isolating for the full 14 days.