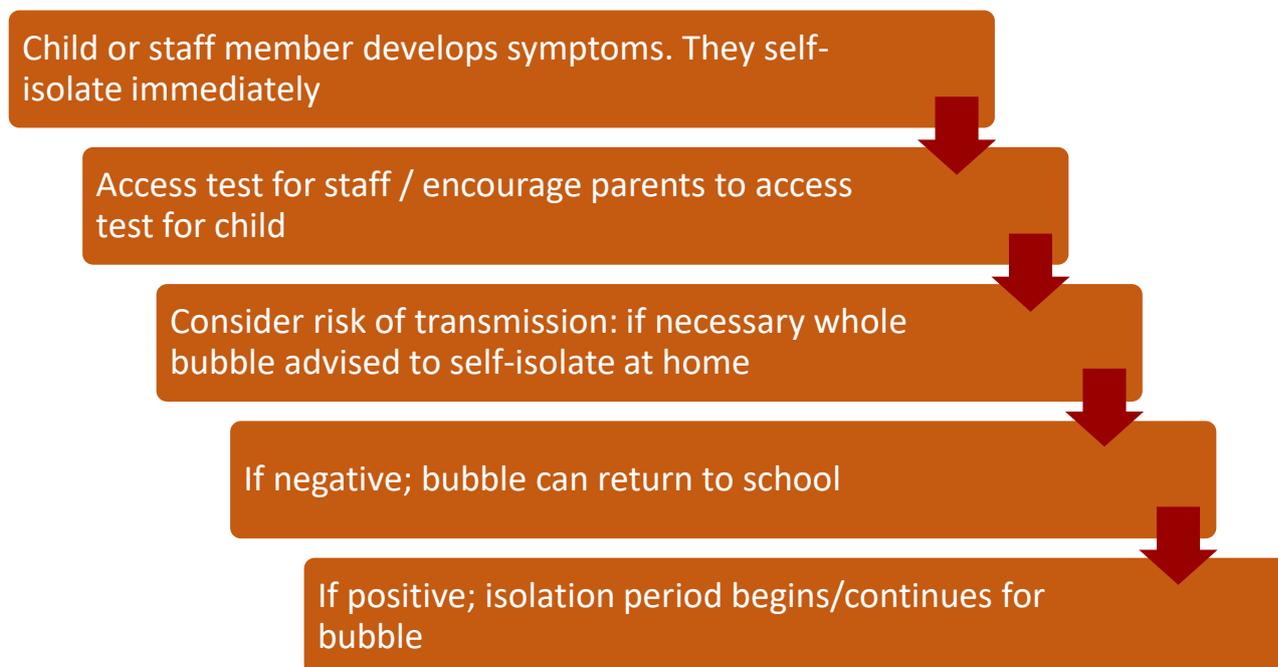


Responding to a suspected or confirmed case of COVID19 - Primary

1st June 2020

Overview:



If symptoms develop during the school day:	<p>If a child, young person or staff member develops symptoms of the coronavirus, they should be sent home and advised to self-isolate, along with their fellow household members.</p> <p>If a child is awaiting collection, they should be moved, if possible, to a room where they can be isolated behind a closed door, with appropriate adult supervision if required depending on the age of the child. Ideally, a window should be opened for ventilation. If it is not possible to isolate them, move them to an area which is at least 2 metres away from other people.</p> <p>If they need to go to the bathroom while waiting to be collected, they should use a separate bathroom if possible.</p>
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Sources: [safe working in education](#)
[implementing the protective measures in education](#)
Public Health advice

	<p>The bathroom should be cleaned and disinfected using standard cleaning products before being used by anyone else.</p> <p>PPE should be worn by staff caring for the child while they await collection if direct personal care is needed and a distance of 2 metres cannot be maintained (such as for a very young child or a child with complex needs).</p>
<p>If a child/staff member begins displaying symptoms outside of school.</p>	<p>The individual must not come to school and you should inform the parents of the rest of the bubble so they can be vigilant around any symptoms developing.</p> <p>If the individual arrives at school, they should be sent home immediately.</p>
<p>Isolation for the whole bubble</p>	<p>The DFE and PHE guidance states that the whole bubble should self-isolate if any individual in that bubble tests positive for COVID19. It does not deem isolation necessary on the basis of symptoms only, however our suggestion is that you consider this on a case by case basis.</p> <p>You should consider the likely risk of transmission, for example if symptoms developed during the school day or the individual had been in very recent contact with the wider bubble when their symptoms developed you may want to ask the whole bubble to self-isolate until such time a test has been obtained. If this is the case and the bubble is asked to isolate and the test result is negative, the bubble may return to school.</p> <p>If the individual had not recently been in contact with the bubble i.e. symptoms developed over the weekend, you may feel that it is appropriate for the remainder of the bubble to continue to attend school until such time as a test is obtained.</p> <p>If the bubble members are asked to isolate, it is essential that they follow the government guidance and remain at home for 14 days or until the test comes back as negative.</p>

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<p>Cleaning the area following a case of COVID 19</p>	<p>All surfaces that the symptomatic person has come into contact with must be cleaned and disinfected, including; bathrooms, door handles, telephones, grab-rails in corridors and stairwells.</p> <p>Use disposable cloths or paper roll and disposable mop heads, to clean all hard surfaces, floors, chairs, door handles and sanitary fittings, following one of the options below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a combined detergent disinfectant solution at a dilution of 1,000 parts per million available chlorine • a household detergent followed by disinfection (1000 ppm av.cl.). Follow manufacturer’s instructions for dilution, application and contact times for all detergents and disinfectants • if an alternative disinfectant is used within the organisation, this should be checked and ensure that it is effective against enveloped viruses <p>Areas where a symptomatic individual has passed through and spent minimal time, such as corridors, but which are not visibly contaminated with body fluids can be cleaned thoroughly as normal.</p> <p>Avoid creating splashes and spray when cleaning.</p> <p>Any cloths and mop heads used must be disposed of and should be put into waste bags as outlined below.</p> <p>The minimum PPE to be worn for cleaning an area where a person with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) is disposable gloves and an apron.</p> <p>Hands should be washed with soap and water for 20 seconds after all PPE has been removed.</p>

Accessing testing for staff:	Education settings, as employers, can book tests through an online digital portal . There is also an option for employees to book tests directly on the portal.
Accessing testing for children:	<p>To access testing parents will be able to use the 111 online coronavirus service if their child is 5 or over. Parents will be able to call 111 if their child is aged under 5.</p> <p>Parents must be advised to inform the school of the test result. If negative, verification would be required before returning to school.</p>
Returning to school/work	<p>Where the individual tests negative, they can return to their setting and the fellow household members can end their self-isolation.</p> <p>Where the child/staff member tests positive – they may return to school after 7 days, providing they are well enough to do so.</p>
Disposing of waste	<p>To dispose of waste from people with symptoms of coronavirus, such as disposable cleaning cloths, tissues and PPE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • put it in a plastic rubbish bag and tie it • place the plastic bag in a second bin bag and tie it • put it in a suitable and secure place marked for storage for 72 hours <p>Waste should be stored safely and securely kept away from children. You should not put your waste in communal waste areas until the waste has been stored for at least 72 hours. Storing for 72 hours saves unnecessary waste movements and minimises the risk to waste operatives. This waste does not require a dedicated clinical waste collection in the above circumstances.</p>

Frequently Asked Questions

<p>What does the Track and Trace programme mean for schools?</p>	<p>As part of the national test and trace programme, if other cases are detected within the cohort or in the wider setting, Public Health England’s local health protection teams will conduct a rapid investigation and will advise schools and other settings on the most appropriate action to take.</p> <p>In some cases, a larger number of other children, young people may be asked to self-isolate at home as a precautionary measure – perhaps the whole class, site or year group.</p> <p>It is not expected that closure of the whole school will be necessary where schools are following advice around infection control.</p>
<p>Do other staff members need to self-isolate if a staff member tests positive?</p>	<p>No, other staff members outside of the affected bubble do not need to self-isolate if a teacher or other staff member contracts COVID19. The reason for this is because staff members should be able to implement social distancing when at work. It is appreciated that this will not always be possible with children in the classroom and so the immediate bubble is advised to self-isolate if one of their group contracts the virus. This includes teacher and support staff within the group.</p>
<p>Does the school need to inform the LA of a positive case?</p>	<p>As soon as a pupil or member of staff has tested positive for COVID-19, please notify the Schools Communication Inbox and we can liaise with the school and Public Health England.</p> <p>Schools.Communication@essex.gov.uk</p>
<p>Should a school close to deep clean?</p>	<p>It is not necessary to close the whole school site to deep clean as a result of a case of COVID19. It is advised that, if possible, children/staff are moved away from the area in which the symptomatic individual has been in order to clean.</p>

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<p>Should we inform parents of a case of COVID19 in school.</p>	<p>Yes, it is advisable to inform the affected bubble immediately and the wider school community as soon as possible. Transparency at this time is important as it allows parents, children and staff to be even more vigilant.</p>
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Responding to a case of COVID19 in school – scenarios (from the LA 3/6/2020)

In response to some queries received about responding to a case of COVID19 in different scenarios, please see below advice from public health, which help to clarify:

An individual develops symptoms of COVID19, they go into isolation and they get tested:

- a) Negative test: they can come out of isolation as can their household contacts
- b) Positive test: They isolate for 7 days and their close contacts (including bubble) for 14 days
One of their contacts develops symptoms within the 14 isolation period and they get a test
- c) Test negative: they have to remain in isolation for any of the remainder of the 14 day isolation period, as they could still develop COVID19 in those remaining days
- d) Test positive: they isolate for 7 days from the onset of their symptoms (this could end before the original 14 day isolation period is up)

In the case of siblings:

If Child A has coronavirus symptoms then they should be sent home, and their household should follow the guidance on self-isolation. That **would** include the sibling.

Child A’s sibling’s bubble does **not** need to self-isolate unless Child A’s sibling develops symptoms and then tests positive.

If Child A receives a negative test, both Child A and the sibling can return to school.