

Coronavirus Related Absences – A Quick Guide

Please remember that it is the responsibility of every parent or carer to check their child for COVID19 symptoms every day before school. As per government guidelines, if your child develops COVID19 symptoms (defined below) he or she must not attend school. A pupil exhibiting symptoms during the day will be isolated in a designated area to wait for collection to be taken home.

The COVID19 main symptoms are below:

(copied from the NHS information <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/#symptoms>):

- *a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature) [however the NHS define a high temperature as over 38C]*
- *a 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)*
- *a 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*

What to do if ...	Action needed	Return to school when ...
My child has coronavirus symptoms (as defined above)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not come into school • Whole household self-isolate • Get a test* • Inform school immediately about test result 	<p>The test comes back negative and your child feels well again.</p> <p>Please contact school as your child may be able to return immediately (e.g. if your result is returned at 11am) you don't have to wait until the next full day</p>
My child tests positive for coronavirus.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not come into school • Self-isolate for at least 10 days • Inform school immediately about test result 	<p>They feel better. They can return after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of taste/smell. These symptoms can last for several weeks once the infection has gone</p> <p>You do not need a new 'negative' test in order to return to school</p>
My child has symptoms not linked to COVID19 (symptoms different from the definition above)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow the normal absence procedure that you would have done before COVID19 • Inform the school office of absence and give full details of the illness and symptoms 	<p>When your child is feeling better</p> <p>OR</p> <p>48 hours after the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea</p>
Somebody in my household has coronavirus symptoms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No one in the household should come into school • Whole household to self-isolate • Household member to get a test • Inform school immediately about test result 	<p>The household member's test is negative.</p>
Somebody in my household has tested positive for coronavirus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not come into school • Self-isolate for 14 days 	<p>Child has completed 14 days of self-isolation without any symptoms.</p>

		The child must complete 14 days isolation regardless of if they have a negative test or are not displaying symptoms
NHS test and trace have identified my child as a close contact of somebody with symptoms or confirmed coronavirus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not come into school • Self-isolate for 14 days 	<p>Child has completed 14 days of self-isolation without any symptoms.</p> <p>The child must complete 14 days isolation regardless of if they have a negative test or are not displaying symptoms</p>
My child has travelled and must self-isolate as a part of quarantine.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not come into school • Self-isolate for 14 days 	Child has completed 14 days of self-isolation
We have received medical advice that my child must resume shielding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not come into school • Contact the Head of School to discuss home-learning • Shield until you are informed that restrictions have been lifted. 	Restrictions have been lifted by the appropriate medical team
The school informs you that your child must stay at home following Public Health advice e.g. Local Lockdown or a number of positive COVID19 tests in school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow the advice from the school • Isolate if you are asked to do so 	After the stated period of absence of closure
Your child has been in contact with someone who has been identified as a 'close contact' by the NHS Track and Trace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend school as normal 	You child should attend school as normal, they do not need time off.

*Tests for coronavirus can be booked online: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-andtracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>