

COVID-19 ABSENCE

A QUICK GUIDE FOR PARENTS / CARERS

Please note: the first day of self-isolation is day 0. You must stay in isolation for the next 10 full days

What to do if...	Action needed	Back to school...
...my child has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Child should get a test • Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result • Inform school immediately about test result 	... When child's test comes back negative
... my child tests positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Inform school immediately about test results • Child self-isolates for at least 10 days from when any symptoms started (or from day of test if no symptoms) • Whole household self-isolates for 10 days from day when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) – even if someone tests negative during those 10 days 	...when child feels better, and has been without a fever for at least 48 hours They can return to school after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of smell / taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks after the infection is gone.
...somebody in my household has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Household member with symptoms should get a test • Whole household self-isolates for 10 days while waiting for a test result • Inform school immediately about test results 	... when household member test is negative, and child does not have COVID-19 symptoms*
... somebody in my household has tested positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Whole household self-isolates for 10 days - even if someone tests negative during those 10 days. • Day 0 is the day the first person in the household's symptoms started (or the day the test was taken if no symptoms). 	... when child has completed 10 days of self-isolation, even if they test negative during this time

*symptoms includes at least one of a high temperature; a new continuous cough; a loss of or change to your sense of smell or taste.

See more at www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/

What to do if...
Action needed
Back to school...

...NHS Test and Trace or your school/nursery has identified my child as a 'close contact' of somebody with symptoms* or confirmed COVID-19 (coronavirus)

- Child shouldn't attend school
- Child self-isolates for 10 days (as advised by NHS Test and Trace, or your school / nursery) – even if they test negative during those 10 days
- Rest of household does not need to self-isolate, unless they are a 'close contact' too

... when the child has completed 10 days of self-isolation, even if they test negative during those 10 days

....we/my child has travelled and has to self-isolate as part of a period of quarantine

From 15th December 2020 you will be able to take a COVID-19 test with a private test provider on Day 5 to see if you can end self-isolation early. Read more about the Test to Release for international travel scheme. You cannot use tests provided by NHS Test & Trace under this scheme. Use one of listed private test providers. You can be fined if you use a negative NHS test result to end your self-isolation period early.

- Do not take unauthorised leave in term time
- Consider quarantine requirements and Foreign and Commonwealth Office advice when booking travel
- Provide information to school as per attendance policy

Returning from a destination where quarantine is needed:

- Child shouldn't attend school
- Day 0 of self-isolation is the day you leave a non-exempt country

.. when the quarantine period has been completed for the child (10 days unless using the Test to Release scheme)

... we have received advice from a medical / official source that my child must resume shielding

- Child shouldn't attend school
- Contact school as advised by attendance officer / pastoral team
- Child should shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again

... when school / other agencies inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school again

... I am not sure who should get a test for COVID-19 (coronavirus)

- Only people with symptoms* need to get a test
- People without symptoms are not advised to get a test, even if they are a 'close contact' of someone who tests positive

... children with no symptoms are able to attend school, providing they are not meant to be isolating for any of the reasons set out above.