

The procedure to follow

if there is a suspected case of Covid 19

The government guidance is very clear – if a pupil or member of staff is showing one of the following symptoms, they **must not come to school**. These are the main symptoms:

- a. new and persistent cough
- b. high temperature
- c. loss of taste or smell

1. Response to Suspected Case of COVID-19 at Home.

If a pupil or adult is ill at home and they display [symptoms](#) similar to Covid-19

Parent or staff book a test online via [NHS testing system](#) or Call NHS 119.

The household must isolate until the results have been received.

Parents or staff member must notify school with the results as soon as received.

If the test returns as negative:

If the test is negative and if pupil/staff member feels well and no longer have symptoms similar to coronavirus (COVID-19) then they can stop self-isolating. They could still have another virus, such as a cold or flu – in which case it is still best to avoid contact with other people until they are better.

Other members of their household can stop self-isolating.

The negative test result must be shown to the school before the child or member of staff can return to school.

If the test returns as positive –

If an individual pupil/member of staff test positive the school must be informed.

The individual must isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of their symptoms.

The rest of the household must isolate for 14 days.

The 10-day period starts from the day when they first became ill. If they still have a high temperature, they should keep self-isolating until their temperature returns to normal.

But they can return to school if the cough or loss of sense of smell/taste persists -these symptoms can last for several weeks after the infection has gone.

Their household should self-isolate for the full 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms, following [‘stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection’](#)

2. What happens if someone becomes unwell in school?

If a member of staff or child becomes ill during the day with symptoms the school will:

Isolate the pupil/staff.

Staff dealing with the pupil/staff will wear PPE if supervising the isolation.

Contact home for pupil/staff/ to be collected immediately.

All test and isolate procedures (outlined above) must then be followed.

The School Response to a confirmed case of COVID19

1. The school will contact **the local [Health Protection team](#)** who will carry out a rapid risk assessment.
2. The school will provide a list of those who have been in close contact with the individual – pupils in bubble and staff who have been in contact with the bubble.
3. The Health Protection Team will guide and advise the school on the next steps to take.
4. **All parents will be informed.**

If schools have two or more confirmed cases within 14 days, or an overall rise in sickness absence where coronavirus (COVID-19) is suspected, this may be classified as an outbreak.

The local Health Protection Team may recommend that a larger number of other pupils self-isolate at home as a precautionary measure – perhaps the whole site or year group.

The school will follow the advice of the Health Protection Team in deciding whether the whole school should be closed.

If an outbreak is confirmed, a mobile testing unit may be dispatched to test others who may have been in contact with the person who has tested positive.