

Covid-19 related pupil absence

A quick reference guide for parents and staff (September 2020)

What to do if...	Action Needed	Return to school when...
... my child has a typical cold symptoms e.g. sore throat, running nose, fluctuating temperature	<p>Do what you would have normally done before COVID</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Administer usual, appropriate cold medication. - Send your child to school if they are well enough to attend & engage in learning. - Keep your child at home for a day or two to monitor if you are not sure about the symptoms. After a day, it may become apparent that it is a routine cold or virus. <p>If you are still unsure about your child's symptoms ring 111 for advice</p>	...the symptoms are reduced to where they are well enough to be back in school
<p>The main symptoms of coronavirus are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o a high temperature o a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours o a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal <p>Use the NHS 111 online coronavirus service if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o you're worried about your symptoms o you're not sure what to do 		
...my child has Covid-19 symptoms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do not come to school - Contact school to inform us - Self-isolate the whole household - Get a test - Inform the school immediately about the test result 	...the test comes back negative or a period of 10 days has passed since the symptoms started, and the child feels well.
<p>The current routes for getting a test are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents book a test online at https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid19/symptoms/coronavirus-in-children/ or by calling 119 • If parents or carers are unable to book a local slot then they can email dccg.cornwalldevon.urgenttesting@nhs.net for advice, and will be assessed for urgent testing. • Please do not go to your GP or hospital emergency department to seek a test. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms ring 111. <p>If testing can still not be accessed via this method, then schools can hopefully providing one of their home testing kits to the parent/carer or staff member (supplies allowing), depending on the time elapsed since onset of symptoms as it is important to be tested within the first 5 days.</p> <p>If you are not able to secure a test, it is important that your child remains away from school for the 10-day isolation period. As part of creating a COVID-19 safe school, children must not return before the isolation period is over. Please work with your school to keep all children and young people safe.</p>		
...my child tests positive for Covid-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do not come to school. - Contact school to inform us. - Agree an earliest date for possible return (minimum of 10 days). - Self-isolate the whole household. 	...10 days have passed since symptoms began, even if they still have a cough or loss of taste/smell. <i>(These symptoms can last for several weeks.)</i> AND the child feels well.
...my child tests negative.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contact school to inform us. - Discuss when your child can come back (same day/next day). 	...the test comes back negative.
We are asking parents to share confirmation of a negative test with the school i.e. screenshot of text message, so that we are able to offer assurances to staff & families		
...my child is ill with symptoms not linked to Covid-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do not come to school. - Contact school to inform us. - Ring on each day of illness. 	...after 48 hours following the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea (as per attendance policy)
...someone in my household has Covid-19 symptoms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do not come to school. - Contact school to inform us. - Self-isolate the whole household. - Symptomatic household member to get a test. - Inform school immediately about test result. 	...the test comes back negative.
...someone in my household tests positive for Covid-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do not come to school. - Contact school to inform us. 	...the child has completed 14 days of isolation.

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What to do if...	Action Needed	Return to school when...
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agree an earliest date for possible return (minimum of 14 days). - Self-isolate the whole household. 	
...NHS test and trace has identified my child as a close contact of somebody with symptoms or confirmed Covid-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do not come to school. - Contact school to inform us. - Agree an earliest date for possible return (minimum of 14 days). 	...the child has completed 14 days of isolation.
...NHS test and trace has identified a household member (other than my child) as a close contact of somebody with symptoms or confirmed Covid-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The household member must self-isolate for 14 days. - Child can continue to attend school. 	...child can continue to attend school
... a sibling attending another school has been sent home to self-isolate due to there being a positive case in their school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sibling at other school must self-isolate for 14 days. 	...child can continue to attend school
... my child has travelled abroad from a country or territory that is NOT on the exempt list of countries.	<p>If returning from a destination where quarantine is needed*:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - minimum of 14 days self-isolation for all those who travelled. - contact school to inform us you are back in the country and we will agree an earliest date for possible return to school. - Self-isolate the whole household. <p>*Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) – for up to date travel information</p>	...the quarantine period of 14 days has been completed.
... my child has travelled abroad from a country or territory that IS on the exempt list of countries.	<p>If returning from a destination where quarantine is NOT needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Check the current Exempt countries and territories list to confirm the country you have travelled from or through is on the exempt list. - Ring school to inform us you have returned to the UK and agree a return date to school. 	... you have informed the office of your return to the UK (<i>the office will ask you a few questions about your travel</i>).
...I have travelled from a country that requires us to quarantine (but my child didn't travel).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As long as you do not have / have not had symptoms in the last 14 days, your child can continue to attend school. - The person who has travelled MUST NOT leave the house, including to do pick-ups and drop offs (<i>please contact school if you need support getting your child to school</i>). 	...child can continue to attend school
...we have received medical advice that my child must resume shielding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do not come to school. - Contact school to inform us. - Shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again. 	<p>...school inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school again.</p> <p>...you receive medical advice that your child may return to school.</p>
...my child's bubble is closed due to a Covid-19 outbreak in school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Child must not come to school. - Support your child at home with remote education provided by your school. - Your child will need to self-isolate for 14 days. - Other siblings may continue to attend school. 	...school inform you that the bubble will be reopened.
... I am unable to get a test for someone in the household who has symptoms	<p>If you are not able to get a test in the first 5 days of having symptoms, your child and anyone they live with must stay at home and self-isolate for 14 days. Anyone in your support bubble must also stay at home.</p>	...the child has completed 14 days of isolation.