

Information for parents and carers



Everyone has a role to play in keeping our schools safe and helping to stop the spread of COVID-19. Please don't send your child to school if they have COVID-19 symptoms such as:

- a high temperature
- a new continuous cough
- loss of or change to their sense of taste or smell

If your child does not have symptoms of COVID-19 but has other cold-like symptoms, such as a runny nose, they do not need to be tested and they or members of your household do not need to self-isolate. Your child can attend school if fit to do so.

Contact tracing and self-isolation procedures have recently changed, so here's what to do in particular cases.

Contact tracing will be done by the Contact Tracing Service at the Public Health Agency (PHA). They will call from the number **028 9536 8888 – save the number in your phone so that you recognise it and please answer if they call.**

My child has COVID-19 symptoms

- Book your child a PCR test as soon as possible.
- They should isolate until they get their result. If it is negative they can carry on as normal and return to school as long as they are well (no fever for 48 hours).
- If it is positive they should isolate for 10 days but may be able to end isolation early if they have a negative lateral flow result on days 5 and 6. You will receive further information by text message and a contact tracing call from the PHA.
- You should advise your child's school or nursery that they have tested positive.

You can book a PCR test online via www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or by calling **119 if you can't go online.**

Someone in our household is positive.

- Adults in your household who are not fully vaccinated must self-isolate for 10 days. If they develop symptoms at any time they should book a PCR test.
- School aged children and fully vaccinated adults should take an LFD test as soon as possible and self-isolate until they get the result. They can stop isolating if their test is negative. They should take an LFD test daily until 10 days after exposure, ideally before leaving home for the first time that day. At any point, if an LFD test is positive, they should self-isolate for 10 days from that test. If they develop symptoms, they should self-isolate and book a PCR test.
- Children under the age of 5 do not need to self-isolate or be tested unless they develop symptoms.



There has been a positive case in my child's school

- The Contact Tracing Service will be in touch with you if your child has been identified as a close contact of a positive case.
- If the only contact has been in school it is unlikely that your child will be identified as a close contact.
- The school may send a general letter to parents advising them to be aware of symptoms.
- In the meantime if your child develops symptoms please book a PCR test.

There has been a positive case in my child's nursery school

- The PHA will work with the nursery to identify all close contacts and provide advice and guidance to parents on what to do next.
- In the meantime if your child develops symptoms please book a PCR test.

There has been a positive case in my childcare setting

- The PHA will work with your childcare provider to identify all close contacts and provide advice and guidance on what to do next.
- In the meantime if your child develops symptoms please book a PCR test.

There has been a positive case in a club my child attends

- The Contact Tracing Service will be in touch with you if your child has been identified as a close contact of a positive case.
- In the meantime if your child develops symptoms please book a PCR test.

For more information visit:

pha.site/contacttracingschoolsFAQs

