Protocol for Suspected Covid-19 Case/s in School

This diagram shows how to advise individuals (children and adults) and their households if they become unwell OR if they are sent home because they have been in contact with someone who is ill.

A person with symptoms

If a person becomes unwell with a new continuous cough, or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), **then** *they* must be sent home, arrange a test and self-isolate for at least 10 days.

If a person becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), **then** *other members of their household* should self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.

If a person with symptoms ***tests negative*** and if they feel well and no longer have symptoms similar to coronavirus (COVID-19), **then** *they* can stop self-isolating. *Other members of their household* can stop self-isolating.

If a person with symptoms ***tests positive,*** **then** *other members of their household* should self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.

A person who is sent home because they have been in contact with someone who has tested positive

The Health Protection team will provide definitive advice on who must be sent home. A person who has been in contact with someone who has tested positive will be sent home and asked to self-isolate for 14 days.

If a person has been in contact with an individual who has tested positive and is sent home to self-isolate for 14 days, **then** *their household* does not need to self-isolate, unless the person who is self-isolating subsequently develops symptoms.

If a person who has been in contact with someone who has tested positive subsequently ***develops symptoms*** *themselves* within their 14-day isolation period, **then** they should stay at home and get a test.

If the test delivers a ***negative result***, **then** they must remain in isolation for the remainder of the 14-day isolation period as they could still get symptoms after being tested.

If the test delivers a ***positive result***, **then** they should inform their school immediately, and must isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of their symptoms.

If the test delivers a ***negative result***, then ***their household*** can stop self-isolating if they do not have symptoms.

If the test delivers a ***positive result***, then ***their household*** should self-isolate for at least 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.

If you have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), get a test as soon as possible. You ***must*** stay at home until you receive the result and then follow the instructions outlined above.

Main Symptoms

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature).
- **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.

The majority of people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms.

What to do if you have symptoms:

If you have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus:

1. Get a test to check if you have coronavirus as soon as possible.
2. Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get your test result – only leave your home to have a test.

Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, must also stay at home until you get your result.

NHS Test and Trace

The NHS Test and Trace service will help to control the rate of reproduction (R), reduce the spread of the infection and save lives. By playing your part through the actions set out below, you will directly help to contain the virus by reducing its spread. This means that, thanks to your efforts, the Government will be able to go as far as it is safe to go in easing lockdown measures.

You can help in the following ways:

- if you develop symptoms, you must continue to follow the rules to self-isolate with other members of your household and get a test to find out if you have coronavirus.
- if you test positive for coronavirus, you must share information promptly about your recent contacts through the NHS Test and Trace service to help them alert other people who may need to self-isolate.
- if you have had close recent contact with someone who has coronavirus, you must self-isolate if the NHS Test and Trace service advises you to do so.

Definitions

'Self-isolation if you have symptoms' means you and all household members must remain at home. Do not go outside your home for any reason i.e. to work, school, or public areas, and do not use public transport or taxis. The [guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection page](#) has more information on self-isolation.

'Contact' means a person who has been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for coronavirus and who may or may not live with them.

Imposed Government Lockdown

In the event of a local lockdown, visit your [local authority's website](#) for further guidance and follow the public health guidance for your local area.