



Covid-19 Related Absence – A Quick reference Guide for Parents

Key Symptoms of COVID-19

What to do if...	Action needed	Back to school when...
My child has COVID-19 symptoms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Contact school to inform us • Child should get a test • Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result • Inform school or childcare setting immediately about test results 	The test comes back negative.
My child tests positive for COVID-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Child self-isolates for at least 10 days from when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) • Contact school to inform us immediately about test results • Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from day when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) - even if someone tests negative during those 14 days 	They can return after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of taste/smell. These symptoms can last for several weeks once the infection is gone.
Somebody in my household has COVID-19 symptoms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Contact school to inform us • Household member with symptoms should get a test • Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result • Inform school us immediately about test results • Anyone with symptoms in the household should get tested 	The test comes back negative.
Somebody in my household has tested positive for COVID-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Contact school to inform us • Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from day when symptoms started (or from day of test if no symptoms) - even if someone tests negative during those 14 days 	The child has completed 14 days of self-isolation and is symptom free.
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"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Contact school to inform us • Child self-isolates for 14 days (as advised by NHS Test and Trace) – even if they test negative during those 14 days • Rest of household does not need to self-isolate, unless they are a 'close contact' too 	The child has completed 14 days of self-isolation and is symptom free, even if they test negative during those 14 days
We / my child has travelled and has to self-isolate as part of a period of quarantine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not take unauthorised leave in term time • Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advice when booking travel • Returning from a destination where quarantine is needed: • Child shouldn't attend school • Whole household self-isolates for 14 days – even if they test negative during those 14 days 	The quarantine period of 14 days has been completed for the child, even if they test negative during those 14 days

What to do if...	Action needed	Back to school when...
We have received advice from a medical / official source that my child must resume shielding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Contact school to inform us • Child should shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again 	School inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school again when school or childcare setting / other agencies inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school or childcare setting again
I am not sure who should get a test for COVID - 19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	When conditions above, as matching your situation, are met
My child's bubble is closed due to a COVID-19 outbreak in school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • At home support your child with remote education provided by school • If you child has been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 they do not need to get a test unless instructed to do so by Public Health England or they develop COVID symptoms. • They must self-isolate for 14 days, even if they do not have any symptoms. Members of your household do not need to self-isolate unless your child also develops symptoms 	School will inform you when the bubble will be reopening.
My child's bubble is closed due to a COVID-19 outbreak in school and they have a sibling.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The sibling can come to school unless they have symptoms, have had close contact with a positive case and they have been told to self-isolate • The parent, if they can drive, should drop off and pick up the sibling but must stay in the car if possible or wear a mask and stay at the school gates with social distance 	

* Symptoms include 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 [the NHS website](https://www.nhs.uk).

For further information: www.gov.uk/backtoschool