

COVID-19 case response

Check what to do when staff or pupils show symptoms or test positive.

Pupil shows symptoms in school

Teacher to send the pupil to the Common room and to tell the pupil to keep 2 metres away from anyone they pass and not to touch anything

Teacher to inform Mrs Sharpe, Mrs Lillie, Miss Tighe or Mrs Law, so they can arrange for the pupil to be picked up. Pupil should be left alone in a ventilated room if possible and safe to do so. If a 2-metre distance isn't possible, the supervising staff member will wear a face mask. If contact is necessary, they'll also wear gloves and an apron. If there's a risk of fluids entering the eye, they'll also wear eye protection

Staff member shows symptoms in school

Staff member to inform Mrs Sharpe, Mrs Lillie or Miss Tighe before leaving the school premises, avoiding contact with others

If teaching, staff member to wait until supervision has arrived for their class before leaving

Pupil/staff member shows symptoms or gets positive lateral flow test result at home

Pupil/staff member to stay at home and inform Mrs Sharpe

Mrs Sharpe to tell the pupil/staff member:

- To start self-isolating
 - To report the lateral flow test result (if applicable) to NHS Test and Trace
 - To take a 'standard' **PCR test** as soon as possible (this **must** be taken **within 2 days** of a positive lateral flow test result) and report the test result to NHS Test and Trace, which will let them know what to do, and will notify close contacts.
- Note:** if a home testing kit is available in school, you can give it to them to take home if you think they may have barriers to accessing testing elsewhere. If providing 1 for a pupil aged 16 or under, you must inform their parents or guardians
- That members of their household and close contacts should take a lateral flow device (LFD) test every day for 7 days and continue to attend their setting, unless they test positive, if they meet the criteria detailed in the red box below left. Otherwise, they will need to start self-isolating

Once the individual has left the premises (or if they're at home): surfaces they have come into contact with will be cleaned and disinfected. Areas they have passed through (e.g. corridors) will be cleaned thoroughly as normal

If the individual's PCR test is **negative**

- They (and any members of their household and close contacts who are self-isolating) will be told that they can stop self-isolating as long as they have no symptoms
- They can return to school

If the individual's PCR test is **positive**

- They should follow the instructions of NHS Test and Trace
- They should continue self-isolating for **at least 10 days**, counting from the day after their symptoms started or the positive test result, as applicable
- Members of their household and close contacts not exempt from self-isolating (see red box below left) must also continue to self-isolate for 10 days, counting from the day after contact with the person who tested positive

An individual who had COVID-19 symptoms:

- Should only return to school if the only symptoms they still have after the isolation period are a cough or loss/change of smell/taste (these symptoms can last for several weeks once the infection has gone) – they should **not** return until their temperature has returned to normal, or if they are otherwise unwell

Self-isolation exemption criteria for close contacts

Close contacts or household members of a positive case are exempt from self-isolating and instead should take a daily LFD test for 7 days if any of the following applies:

- They're fully vaccinated (2 doses or more)
- They're between the ages of 5 years, and 18 years and 6 months
- They've taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- They're not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Note for primary schools: Children under 5 years are exempt from self-isolating and do not need to take part in daily lateral flow testing of close contacts but should avoid contact with medically vulnerable people.