Covid-19 - Symptoms, Testing and Tackling

Q: What should I do if my child starts showing symptoms of Covid-19?
A: If your child has any Covid-19 symptoms;

- a high temperature of 37.8° or higher,
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours,
- loss or change to your sense of smell or taste).

If this is the case, you must keep your child away from school, book a test for them and <u>let the school know of the result when it comes through.</u>

Tests can be booked online through the NHS [testing and tracing for coronavirus](#) website.

If your child **tests negative**, if they feel well and no longer have symptoms similar to coronavirus (COVID-19), they can stop self-isolating.

If someone **tests positive**, they should follow the 'stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection' and must continue to self-isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of their symptoms and then return to school only if they do not have symptoms other than cough or loss of sense of smell/taste.

If the child or staff member receives a positive test result, schools will work with the local health protection team who will guide us on the actions we will take. The Test and Trace service will identify any children or staff who have recently come into close contact with the infected person. These children and staff will then be asked to self-isolate for 14 days (since they last came into close contact with the infected person).

Whole school closure based on cases within the school will not generally be necessary and decisions on this will be made by the health protection team.

Q: When do I need to keep my child off school?
A: Your child should not attend school if:

- they have any symptoms of COVID-19;
  - a high temperature of 37.8° or higher,
  - a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours,
  - loss or change to your sense of smell or taste).
- if they have tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 10 days.
- anyone they live with (or who is in their support bubble) has any symptoms of COVID-19 or they have tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 14 days,
- they have been asked to self-isolate by the national Test and Trace service because they have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19.

In all of these situations your child, and anyone they live with, should self-isolate according to current national guidelines.

[Read guidance about what you should do if you, your child, or someone they live with develops symptoms of COVID-19 on Gov.uk](#)

[Read guidance about when to self-isolate and what to do on nhs.uk](#)

Q: What will happen if your child or staff member shows symptoms of Covid-19 while they are at school?
A: If your child or staff member shows symptoms of Covid-19 at school, they will be taken to wait in an isolation room until they can be collected and taken home. Children will be supervised during this time.

Areas where your child or staff member has been during the day will be thoroughly cleaned before other children and staff can return to them. The child or staff member will need to arrange testing via the national Test and Trace service and self-isolate, in line with current national guidelines, along with those they live with.

Q: What if another child in the class has symptoms?
A: Northgate will be following Government guidance if this happens. The child will be sent home and asked to self-isolate. Children who have been in close contact with them do not need to go home to self-isolate unless the child tests positive, your child develops symptoms themselves or you have been requested to do so by NHS Test & Trace.

Q: What will happen if another child in the same class tests positive for Covid-19?
A: If your child has been in close contact during the previous 48 hours with the child who has tested positive, you will either be informed by school that your child must stay at home (self-isolate) for 14 days, or you will be contacted by someone from the Test and Trace service who will talk you through any actions you need to take.

Q: What will happen if there are Covid-19 cases at my child's school?
A: If a school has cases of COVID-19 among pupils or staff, or they see an increase in pupil or staff absence due to suspected COVID-19, they will need to contact the local health protection team. This team will advise the school if additional action is needed, but it is unlikely that the whole school will need to be closed.