

# Frequently Asked Questions from Parents re COVID19

January 2021

<p>Child was displaying symptoms but now feels better – can they come back to school.</p>	<p>Anyone displaying symptoms of temperature, new continuous cough or change/loss of sense of taste/smell should self-isolate and seek a test.</p> <p>If the test is <b>positive</b> – self-isolate for 10 days (household 10 days).</p> <p>If <b>negative</b> they can return to school. As long as they haven't been deemed a close contact of someone who is positive (10 days isolation).</p> <p>If the child has not been tested but feels better within the 10 days they still <b>cannot</b> return to school. If they had symptoms they need to isolate for the full 10 days or have a negative test result.</p>
<p>Child has tested negative – can they come back to school?</p>	<p>If the child was the <b>only</b> symptomatic individual in a household and has not had contact with an individual who has tested positive within or outside of school – <b>they can return to school.</b></p> <p>If the child <b>was</b> asked to self-isolate because of close contact with an individual who has tested positive within or outside of school – <b>they cannot return to school for 10 days.</b> The 10 days starts from the day the positive individual displayed symptoms. Even if they themselves have tested negative. This is because of the length of time the virus can take to manifest.</p> <p>If the child lives with another symptomatic individual – they should only return to school once the test has returned as <b>negative</b> or it has been <b>10 days</b> since the individual showed symptoms.</p>
<p>If a child has symptoms, should the sibling with no symptoms be kept off too?</p>	<p>The <b>whole household</b> should isolate <b>while a test is being sought.</b> This includes siblings from this/other schools/settings.</p> <p>Only the symptomatic child should be tested.</p> <p>If <b>negative</b> the whole household can stop isolating. If <b>positive</b> the whole household continue to isolate.</p>
<p>Children who are presenting with colds but also have a cough or temperature?  Should these children stay at home?</p>	<p>Any child with one of the COVID symptoms (new continuous cough, temperature, loss/change in sense of taste or smell) should be tested. Even if there is a chance it is a cold.</p> <p>These individuals should isolate at home, with household, until a test is sought.</p>

	<p>If the child <b>only</b> has cold symptoms <b>without</b> any COVID symptoms they should not be tested and can return to school when well enough.</p>
<p>Children with asthma - how do we manage this with coughs which can be persistent and ongoing?</p>	<p>Any child with one of the COVID symptoms (new continuous cough, temperature, loss/change in sense of taste or smell) should be tested. Even if there is a chance it is related to allergies or asthma.</p> <p>It is not usual for children with asthma to display signs of a temperature without being otherwise unwell.</p> <p>A new, continuous cough means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (<u>if they usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual</u>).</p>
<p>What is a temperature for a child? Is it 37.8?</p>	<p>You should look for signs of a temperature i.e. flushed, hot to the touch on chest/back. You do not need to 'hit' a specific number, however Public Health England have advised that the temperature is 38.</p>
<p>Can we have a comprehensive list of illnesses temperature, etc what can be in school and what needs to be sent home?</p>	<p>All those who have COVID symptoms must self-isolate and seek a test.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>a high temperature</b> – feeling hot to touch on chest or back (you do not need to measure temperature)</li> <li>• <b>a new, continuous cough</b> – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if they usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)</li> <li>• <b>a loss or change to sense of smell or taste</b> – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal</li> </ul> <p>Their households must also self-isolate until they have received the test result. If positive they must remain at home for 10 days (10 for infected individual).</p> <p>Children with none of the above symptoms should not be tested.</p>
<p>Can we ask staff and parents to provide proof of a negative or positive test?</p>	<p>The DFE guidance states that schools/settings should not request verification of a negative test before allowing children back, but we feel it is appropriate to ask if you are concerned.</p>
<p>Are sickness and diarrhoea on the list of symptoms for COVID-19 testing?</p>	<p>No, these are not symptoms which would on their own meet the criteria for someone to be tested. These remain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a high temperature</li> <li>• a new, continuous cough</li> <li>• a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste</li> </ul>

<p>Individual has travelled abroad; do they need to isolate?</p> <p>Can they take a test and return to school earlier?</p>	<p>Staff or children/young people who have travelled need to isolate for 10 days on return to the UK, unless the country they visited is on the <u>exemption list</u>.</p> <p>If they have visited any country that is not on the list they must isolate, even if they have travelled back to the UK via a country that is on the list.</p> <p>Taking a test will not allow them to end the isolation period early, even if it is negative. The full period of time must be adhered to.</p>
<p>Why can children or staff not return to school if they have been asked to isolate as a close contact but get a negative test result?</p>	<p>Anyone identified as a close contact <b>must</b> isolate for the full 10 days. This is because they may have the virus but it cannot yet be detected by the test and they could unknowingly spread the virus further.</p>
<p>How should we respond when a parent has one child self-isolating as a close contact and cannot get the other to school?</p>	<p>The following advice is only for scenarios where the sibling is not symptomatic but asked to isolate because they have been identified as a close contact of a positive individual. If the sibling is symptomatic the whole household should isolate.</p> <p>The first port of call would be to see if the parent could ask anyone in their childcare/support bubble to drop off or collect the child who has not been asked to self-isolate.</p> <p>If there is no one else who can collect/take a sibling from/to school then the isolating child could travel by car and stay in the car whilst the parent collects the sibling. The isolating child should not have contact with anyone outside of their household and should not leave the car or come onto the school site.</p> <p>If this is not an option either because parent doesn't drive or cannot leave the isolating child in the car unattended, then our suggestion is to provide remote learning to the other sibling/s to enable them to remain at home for this time.</p>