COVID-19 (coronavirus) absence: A quick guide to parents/carers

WHAT TO DO IF	ACTION NEEDED	BACK TO SCHOOL
my child has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms	Child shouldn't attend school Child should get a test Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result Inform school immediately about test results	when child's test comes back negative
my child tests positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)	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) Inform school immediately about test results Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from day when symptoms started (or from day of test with no symptoms) – even if someone tests negative during those 14 days	when child feels better, and has beer without a fever for at least 48 hours They can return to school after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss smell/taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks once the infection is gone
somebody in my household has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms	Child shouldn't attend school The household member with symptoms should get a test The whole household should self-isolate while waiting for test result You should inform the school immediately about test results	Child can return to school if the household member test is negative and child does not have any COVID-19 symptoms
NHS Test and Trace has identified my child as a 'close contact' of somebody with symptoms or confirmed COVID-19	Child shouldn't attend school 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	when the child has completed 14 days of self-isolation, even if they test negative during those 14 days

WHAT TO DO IF	ACTION NEEDED	BACK TO SCHOOL
we/my child has travelled and has to self-isolate as part of a period of quarantine	Do not take unauthorised leave in term time Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advice when booking travel Provide information to school as per attendance policy 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	when the quarantine period of 14 days has been completed for the child, even if they test negative during those 14 days
we have received advice from a medical /official source that my child must resume shielding	 Child shouldn't attend school Contact school as advised by attendance officer/pastoral team Child should shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again 	when school/other agencies inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school again
I am not sure who should get a test for COVD-19 (coronavirus)	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

Symptoms include at least one of:







A LOSS OF

See more at www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms



self-isolate, unless they are a 'close-contact' too

confirmed COVID-19

(coronavirus)