

Guidance for Education & Childcare Settings in the Management of Covid 19

SUSPECTED COVID 19 case in child or staff member

Definition: Any of the following symptoms:

- A high temperature
- A new continuous cough (coughing a lot for more than an hour or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours)
- A loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell

Ensure child/staff member self-isolates at home for 10 days from when symptoms started. The rest of the suspected cases household also need to self-isolate for 14 days

Advise that the child/staff member get tested:
www.nhs.uk/coronavirus or ring **NHS 119** (if they have no internet access)
 Advise them to notify you of the test result as soon as they receive it

If the CHILD/STAFF MEMBER is in the setting when they develop symptoms:

Child – self-isolate away from others and arrange to have collected by parent/guardian

Use appropriate PPE if 2m distance cannot be maintained

Staff member – send home immediately

Both - Follow risk assessment process re cleaning and disinfecting room suspected case was using

If the staff member/child do not get tested advise:
 They cannot return to the setting until the end of the 10 day self-isolation period (see ending self-isolation for confirmed case)
 And
 Members of their household must also self-isolate for 14 days from when the suspected case symptoms started

NB – if staff member/child does not get tested be alert to any other children/staff members displaying symptoms of Covid 19 within your setting/bubbles/year or class groups

Contact PHE NE Health Protection Team (HPT) on **0300 303 8596 option 1** to notify of any suspected case

Report suspected case to Gateshead Council Public Health Team via link: <https://tasks.gateshead.gov.uk/covid19suspectedcases>

RESULT OF TEST (if taken)

POSITIVE for COVID 19
 Follow the confirmed case process

NEGATIVE for COVID 19
 Follow ending self-isolation negative case

CONFIRMED COVID 19 case in child or staff member

Definition: Laboratory positive case of COVID 19 with or without symptoms

- **Confirmed cases MUST self-isolate at home for at least 10 days**
- **Household members of the confirmed case MUST self-isolate for 14 days**

The isolation periods for confirmed cases and their household members start from either the date when the symptoms started or if no symptoms from the day the test was taken

Contact NE Health Protection Team (HPT) on **0300 303 8596 option 1** to notify of any confirmed case

The HPT will contact the confirmed case (or the parent or guardian) to confirm:

- Onset date of their illness
- Their attendance at the setting
- Date on which they were tested

The HPT will contact the school headteacher or the manager of the setting (e.g. nursery) to

- Carry out a risk assessment
- Identify close contacts of confirmed case
- Advise which contacts should self-isolate
- Advise any required action for the setting
- Provide template text for inclusion in letter from setting to those/ the parents of those who need to self-isolate

If a child/staff member, who has been a close contact of a confirmed case, is advised to self-isolate by the HPT their household members do not need to self-isolate themselves unless the child/staff member who is self-isolating subsequently develops symptoms

ENDING SELF-ISOLATION

Child/staff member:

Negative case – Can return to the setting unless they still have a temperature, in which case they should continue to self-isolate until they feel well. Advise to seek medical advice if worried or if still have a temperature after 10 days. Other household members can end self-isolation as long as they have no symptoms.

Positive case – Can return to the setting after 10 days unless they still have a temperature, in which case they should continue to self-isolate and seek medical advice. They do not need to self-isolate after 10 days if they only have a cough or loss of sense of smell or taste.

Other household members of confirmed cases of child/staff members – Can stop self-isolating after 14 days as long as they have not developed any symptoms.

Children/staff members who live in a household with a symptomatic person that has not been tested or who has tested positive (with or without symptoms), should self-isolate for a full 14 days. The 14-days start from the day the person had symptoms or if no symptoms from the day their test was taken. The child/staff member can stop self-isolating after 14 days, if they do not get any symptoms.