

A Quick Guide to our School Community COVID-19 Response – September 2020

Coronavirus symptoms are:

- a new and persistent cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell



All periods of self-isolation are calculated from the first day of symptoms appearing.

I want to know more about the school systems to manage the risks of Covid-19, how do I get more information?

The school's risk assessment is on the website (as are the letters we have sent out about our plans and arrangements)

What should I do if...	What action should I take?	When should my child return to school?
My child has one or more of the coronavirus symptoms.	- Do not send your child to school - Inform the school - Self-isolate - Get a test - Inform school immediately about test result	Your child should return to school if the test comes back negative and they feel better.
What should I do if my child displays Covid 19 symptoms in the evening or at the weekend?	As above and notify the school	As above
My child tests positive for coronavirus.	- Do not send your child to school - Self-isolate for at least 10 days - Inform school immediately about test result	If your child feels better, they can return to school after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of smell/taste as these symptoms can last for several weeks once the infection has passed.
Someone in my household has one or more of the coronavirus symptoms.	- Do not send your child to school - Inform the school - Self-isolate - Household member to get a test - Inform school immediately about test result	If the household member test is negative, your child should return to school.
My child (or their sibling) is self-isolating whilst waiting for a test result, will they get work from school?	They will be authorised on our system so this absence will not count against them. We will notify their class teacher. – Log on to Google classroom, teachers will put work on their on a Monday for each day of the week	Once your child has a negative result they can return to school. Or if a positive result, please refer to guidance above.
Someone in my household has tested positive for coronavirus.	- Do not send your child to school - Inform school immediately about test result - Self-isolate for 14 days	When your child has completed 14 days of self-isolation and they are not displaying any symptoms, they can return to school.
NHS Test-and-Trace have identified my child as a 'close contact' of somebody with symptoms or confirmed coronavirus.	- Do not send your child to school - Inform the school - Self-isolate for 14 days	When your child has completed 14 days of self-isolation and they are not displaying any symptoms, they can return to school.

We/my child has travelled and has to self-isolate a part of a period of quarantine.	<p>- Do not send your child to school</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform the school - Self-isolate for 14 days <p>To further support attendance at school, please also adhere to the following guidance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do not take unauthorised leave in term time - Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advice when booking travel - Provide information to school as per the school's Attendance Policy (available to download from our website) 	When your child has completed 14 days quarantine period and they are not displaying any symptoms, they can return to school.
I have received medical advice that my child must resume shielding.	<p>- Do not send your child to school</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform the school - Keep in contact with the school as required. - Shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and/or shielding is paused again 	

Frequently asked questions

If my child had a positive test for Covid 19, what would I do? Inform the school as soon as possible and we would work closely with you to establish all their recent close contacts. We would work with local PH who would decide what action the school would then take. We would advise against you or your child letting lots of people know yourselves as this just causes panic.

What happens if there is a positive case of Covid 19 in school? Headteachers have very clear guidance to follow, if we have a case of a student who tests positive for Covid-19 we have to immediately telephone local Public Health (so do please inform us as soon as you know). They will then work with us to risk assess. They will use that information to instruct our next step which may be to contact a small number of families or to inform the whole 'year group bubble/class bubble' that they must now self-isolate. The guidance does change and updates for Headteachers on a regular basis and as far as we can glean there is no fixed number of cases that would lead to a whole 'year group bubble/class bubble' being told to self-isolate, it is more about the context of the school and how the bubbles are working.

How likely is it that the whole year group would have to self-isolate if there was a confirmed case? If we had a case of Covid-19 confirmed a member of SLT would contact local PH. They would work with us to establish the next steps. This would either be to contact a number of students who had been in close contact with the ill child (i.e. we would use class seating plans and notes from the poorly child about who they had sat with at lunchtime etc) and ask them to self-isolate OR ask the whole year group to self-isolate. A number of schools in the city have whole year groups who are self-isolating and some just have a number of children within a year group. It really is taken on a case by case basis. Local PH instruct the school through-out.

How many children are in a year group bubble? Approximately 30

If there is a confirmed case in school and my child in Y2 has a letter to self-isolate, does my child in Y5 need to self-isolate too? No. Not unless your Y2 child starts to develop Covid-19 symptoms. Then you would get the child with symptoms tested and all members of the household would need to self-isolate as above.

Do I need to self-isolate if I get a letter from the school telling me there is a confirmed case in school and my child has to isolate? No. Not unless your child develops Covid 19 symptoms.

What work will my child be set if they were told to self-isolate for 14 days following a confirmed case in school?

Your child's teacher would ensure that your child's planned curriculum in each subject would continue. In the event of individuals self-isolating, they should access their account on Google classroom where they will find set work for the week. If a whole bubble/class/year group is self-isolating for a period of time, then there will be a mixed teaching approach, Google classrooms, recorded video lessons and links to resources etc. Guidance would be issued in this event.

What if my child is not in the same year group as child X who gets Covid 19 but travels on the bus/walks home with child X?

In this scenario, child X has tested positive for Covid-19. They will be asked to identify anyone they have had close contact with over the past few days. Local PH will guide us through this. These close contacts will also be contacted and told to self-isolate if it is thought they are at risk of having caught Covid-19.

Will we be told if there is a positive case of Covid-19 in school? Will we be told the names of the children who have tested positive? You will not be told names as it would violate medical confidentiality. We will work with the family and local PH to contact everyone that is deemed to be at risk. Those who are not deemed to be at risk will not be contacted. However, children and families will talk. We would just please ask that everyone in our community shows care and respect for each other and do not share rumours and half-truths on social media as has happened in other school communities.

What happens if a teacher has a positive test for Covid-19? Just as in the case of a confirmed case for a student, we would contact local PH and they would advise us what to do. If they felt it was necessary to instruct any other staff or students to self-isolate we would do as they asked and contact those that were thought to be affected. We would not share the information with anyone else (again to preserve medical confidentiality). The teacher's lessons would be covered and work set. However, teacher's lessons are covered for a number of reasons so it does not always follow that if a teacher is missing from their lesson they have Covid-19. Please do urge your child to avoid speculation and rumours.

Does my child have to wear a face covering at school? Ultimately, face coverings in communal areas in Sheffield Secondary Schools only was decided by the government and the Director of Public Health for Sheffield.

Does my child have to wear a face covering in lessons? The government and the Trust policy is very clear that face coverings are not to be worn in lessons.

Please keep this document to hand for reference

Growing and Learning with the Guidance of God

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