

# COVID-19 symptoms and cases - actions for schools

Document informed by: [DfE Guidance for full opening: schools](#)

Sits within context of the: [Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire Outbreak Control Plan](#)



**COVID-19 Symptoms:** New, continuous cough OR high temperature OR loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell

## Symptomatic person in school community

Arrange to send the person home.  
*If the person is seriously unwell call 999*

Isolate, if possible behind closed door or 2m away from others, with an open window.

Clean isolation room and bathroom if used, following guidance below.

Notify:

- local Health Protection Team (HPT) in PHE 0344 225 3560 (option 0 option 2) **and**
- Local authority by emailing [COVID19testing@Coventry.gov.uk](mailto:COVID19testing@Coventry.gov.uk)

Advise the person sent home to:

- Arrange a test through [online portal](#) or via 119,
- Follow '[Stay at home](#)' guidance,
- Self isolate for at least 10 days\*,
- Household members must self isolate for 14 days\*.

**No immediate action to send others home**

### Negative

Can return to school when well, including fever free for 48 hours.

Household can stop isolating.

### Positive

Follow positive COVID-19 test process.

Person to isolate for at least 10 days from onset of symptoms AND until well (including fever free for 48 hrs)

Household isolates for full 14 days.

### Stay away from school if:

- Have COVID-19 symptoms,
- Positive COVID-19 test in last 10 days,
- In a household with positive test in last 14 days,
- Advised to by NHS Test and Trace.

## Positive COVID-19 test in school community

Notify

- local Health Protection Team (HPT) in PHE 0344 225 3560 (option 0 option 2) **and**
- Local authority by emailing [COVID19testing@Coventry.gov.uk](mailto:COVID19testing@Coventry.gov.uk)

HPT will carry out rapid risk assessment to confirm who has been in close contact and is required to self-isolate.

School should send home those in close contact with positive case and communicate with parents/carers and staff.

If someone who has been asked to self-isolate becomes symptomatic they should get a test and refer to 'Stay at Home' guidance.

### Negative

Continue to self isolate for 14 days

### Positive

Isolate for at least 10 days, until well and fever free for 48 hrs. Follow '[Stay at home](#)' guidance.

Household contacts isolate for 14 days

## 2 or more people in a school community with symptoms ("outbreak")

If individual is in school follow "symptomatic person in school community" flow-chart.

Notify immediately:

- local Health Protection Team (HPT) in PHE 0344 225 3560 (option 0 option 2)
- Local authority by emailing [COVID19testing@Coventry.gov.uk](mailto:COVID19testing@Coventry.gov.uk)

The HPT will complete a risk assessment, notify and liaise with the local authority by email and consider need for an Outbreak Control Team (OCT).

Identification of contacts who need to isolate; this may be a small number, whole year group or site.

HPT may advise widespread testing which may inform further actions.

Schools to send letter (provided by HPT) to contacts and non-contacts.

**Close contact is defined as, contact in the infectious period (48 hrs before to 10 days following symptom onset/positive test [if no symptoms]) in the following situations;**

- Direct close contacts – face-to-face for any length of time
- Proximity contacts – within 1m for over 1minute or within 1-2m for more than 15 minutes
- Travelling in a small vehicle, like a car (or on public transport if no face covering worn by case)

**Cleaning; Please refer to detailed guidance for [cleaning of non-healthcare settings](#)**

For both routine cleaning, and cleaning following a symptomatic person having been in your setting in the infectious period please follow the key points below:

Use disposable cloths or paper roll and disposable mop heads.

Use, as in cleaning routine, a combined detergent disinfectant solution at a dilution of 1,000 parts per million available chlorine (ppm av. Cl.) OR household detergent followed by disinfection (1000ppm av. Cl.) OR if an alternative disinfectant is used ensure it is effective against enveloped viruses.

Any waste from suspected cases and cleaning of areas should be double bagged and stored for 72 hours before disposal as normal.

Isolate individuals separately

Refer to PPE guidance

\* Result of test may change isolation period