

COVID response: What to do if a child becomes unwell at school

The medical advice is now:

You must self-isolate for at least 10 days if you have coronavirus symptoms or tested positive or if your test results were unclear

If you live in the same household or are in the same support bubble as somebody who has tested positive or has symptoms you must isolate for 14 days.

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

A child with any of the above symptoms must:

- Be taken immediately to the first aid room and an adult should collect their bag, coat and belongings
- The adult must use PPE as soon as the child reports symptoms/symptoms become noticeable
- SLT must be informed via telephone
- First aid room must be well-ventilated and the door must be closed to isolate the potential infection. If more than one child requires the room at a time, then the Y1 group room will also be used
- The child should only be allowed use of the Y1 staff toilet and must be accompanied there
- The toilet should then be marked 'out of use' until it has been thoroughly cleaned
- The child's parents should be called and asked to collect their child and any siblings from school immediately and for the child to isolate for at least 10 days
- All adults and children who have come into contact with the unwell child must immediately wash their hands
- The medical room/Y1 group room will be cleaned immediately after use
- Parents should be advised to follow the NHS guidance on self-isolation along with all members of their household
- Parents should be advised to get their child tested for COVID-19
- Parents should advise school of the outcome ASAP

If a child tests positive for COVID-19:

- As set out in the Local Outbreak Control Plan if made aware of a positive case in a staff or pupil, the Headteacher will immediately contact the London Coronavirus Response Centre (LCRC) on 0300 303 0450 for advice on isolation of contacts and for a risk assessment to be completed
- The Headteacher will notify the Public Health Team
- The LCRC will provide guidance on communications and letter templates for schools to send to staff, parents of contacts, and the wider school community

WHAT TO DO IF CHILD SHOWS SIGNS OF COVID

Use the NHS 111 online coronavirus service if:

- you're worried about your symptoms
- you're not sure what to do

Use the NHS 111 online coronavirus service

Call 111 if you cannot get help online. Do not go to places like a GP surgery, hospital or pharmacy.

Babies and children

Call 111 if you're worried about a baby or child under 5.

If your child seems very unwell, is getting worse or you think there's something seriously wrong, call 999.

Do not delay getting help if you're worried. Trust your instincts.

Get more advice about [coronavirus in children](#).