

# INFORMATION FOR PARENTS & CARERS

Everyone has a role to play in keeping our schools safe and helping to stop the spread of COVID-19.

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**DON'T SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL IF THEY HAVE COVID-19 SYMPTOMS.**

**VISIT [NIDIRECT.GOV.UK/CORONAVIRUS](https://nidirect.gov.uk/coronavirus) TO BOOK A TEST ONLINE.**

**CALL 119 IF YOU CANNOT BOOK A TEST ONLINE.**

**YOU SHOULD BOOK A COVID-19 TEST IF YOUR CHILD HAS:**

## **A HIGH TEMPERATURE**

This means they feel hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to measure their temperature).

**OR**

## **A NEW CONTINUOUS COUGH**

This means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if they usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual).

**OR**

## **A LOSS OR CHANGE TO THEIR SENSE OF SMELL OR TASTE**

This means they've noticed they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

**IF YOUR CHILD DOES NOT HAVE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19 BUT HAS OTHER COLD-LIKE SYMPTOMS, SUCH AS A RUNNY NOSE, THEY DO NOT NEED TO BE TESTED AND THEY OR MEMBERS OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD DO NOT NEED TO SELF-ISOLATE. YOUR CHILD CAN ATTEND SCHOOL IF FIT TO DO SO.**

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## **HERE'S WHAT TO DO IF:**

### **YOUR CHILD HAS COVID-19 SYMPTOMS**

#### **WHAT TO DO?**

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Book a COVID-19 test
- Household self-isolates
- Inform school immediately about test result

#### **WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?**

Your child can return to school if the test is negative providing they are well enough, have not had a fever for 48 hours and if they haven't been advised to self-isolate by the PHA Contact Tracing Service.

### **YOUR CHILD TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19**

#### **WHAT TO DO?**

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Inform school immediately about test result
- Self-isolate for at least 10 days as advised by the PHA

#### **WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?**

Your child can return to school after 10 days even if they still have a cough / loss of smell or taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks.

### **SOMEBODY IN MY HOUSEHOLD HAS COVID-19 SYMPTOMS**

#### **WHAT TO DO?**

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- The household member should book a COVID-19 test
- Household self-isolates
- Inform school immediately about test result

#### **WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?**

Your child can return to school if the symptomatic household member's test is negative and if they haven't been advised to self-isolate by the PHA Contact Tracing Service.

### **SOMEBODY IN MY HOUSEHOLD TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19**

#### **WHAT TO DO?**

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Inform school immediately about test result

#### **WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?**

Your child can return to school when they have completed 14 days of self-isolation without any symptoms, regardless of your child having a negative COVID-19 test result.

### **CONTACT TRACING HAS IDENTIFIED MY CHILD AS A CLOSE CONTACT**

#### **WHAT TO DO?**

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Self-isolate for at least 14 days as advised by the PHA Contact Tracing Service

#### **WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?**

Your child can return to school when they have completed 14 days of self-isolation without any symptoms\*.

### **YOUR CHILD HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH SOMEONE WHO HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS A CLOSE CONTACT**

#### **WHAT TO DO?**

- Attend school as normal
- If your child does not have any COVID-19 symptoms they should carry on with normal activities

### **YOUR CHILD HAS TRAVELLED ABROAD AND HAS TO SELF-ISOLATE**

#### **WHAT TO DO?**

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Self-isolate for 14 days in line with quarantine advice

#### **WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?**

Your child can return to school when they have completed 14 days of self-isolation without any symptoms\*.

\*If your child has been identified as a close contact of a case of COVID-19, or has returned from travel abroad and is self-isolating, they must self-isolate for 14 days regardless of a negative COVID-19 test result.

Further information, including [Frequently Asked Questions for Parents and Carers](#), can be found on the Department of Education's website at [www.education-ni.gov.uk](https://www.education-ni.gov.uk)