COVID-19 (coronavirus) absence: A quick guide for parents / carers

Insert relevant logo

What to do if	Action needed	Back to school
my child has COVID- 19 (coronavirus) symptoms*	 Child shouldn't attend school Child should get a test Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result Inform school immediately about test results 	when child's test comes back negative and child is well enough
my child tests positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)	 Child shouldn't attend school Child self-isolates for at least 10 days from when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) Inform school immediately about test results Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from day when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) - even if someone tests negative during those 14 days 	when child feels better, and has been without a fever for at least 48 hours They can return to school after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of smell / taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks once the infection is gone.
somebody in my household has COVID- 19 (coronavirus) symptoms*	 Child shouldn't attend school Household member with symptoms should get a test Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result Inform school immediately about test results 	when household member test is negative, and child does not have COVID-19 symptoms*
somebody in my household has tested positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)	 Child shouldn't attend school Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from day when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) - even if someone tests negative during those 14 days 	when child has completed 14 days of self-isolation, even if they test negative during the 14 days

* Symptoms include at least one of a high temperature; a new continuous cough; a loss of or change to your sense of smell or taste. See more at:

https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/