

# COVID RELATED PUPIL ABSENCES

## GUIDE FOR PARENTS/CARERS

This guidance has been produced to alleviate the confusion around when to self-isolate and what to do following the Government changes on 16 August 2021.

Children under the age of 18 years and 6 months old are no longer required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case. However even those who are exempt from self-isolation are advised to get a PCR Test (if aged 5 and over) and to undertake other measures outlined in the guidance such as limiting contact with anyone who is extremely clinically vulnerable and (for those over 11), wearing a face covering in enclosed spaces while the person in the household is self-isolating.

Please be aware that the school is no longer responsible for identifying and informing close contacts and will only be involved in identification of close contacts if contacted directly by NHS Test and Trace.

You can view the full guidance on when to self-isolate and what to do at:  
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>

**Please see the table below specific guidelines related to school**



| What to do if...                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Action needed...                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | When to return to school...                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
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| <p><b>What to do if your child has one or more symptoms of coronavirus</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High temperature</li> <li>• New continuous cough</li> <li>• A loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not send your child to school</li> <li>• Contact school to inform us</li> <li>• Book a PCR test</li> <li>• Self-isolate any members of the household who are not fully vaccinated and are over the age of 18 years and 6 months</li> <li>• Any other children and fully vaccinated adults do not need to self-isolate</li> <li>• Inform the school of the results.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PCR test comes back <b>negative</b>: return to school if your child feels well enough</li> <li>• PCR test comes back <b>positive</b>: return to school on the date advised by the NHS if your child feels well enough.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>My child has tested positive for Covid-19 on a Lateral Flow Device</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not send your child to school</li> <li>• Contact school to inform us</li> <li>• Book a PCR test</li> <li>• Self-isolate any members of the household who are not fully vaccinated and are over the age of 18 years and 6 months</li> <li>• Any other children and fully vaccinated adults do not need to self-isolate</li> <li>• Inform the school of the results.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PCR test comes back <b>negative</b>: return to school if your child feels well enough</li> <li>• PCR test comes back <b>positive</b>: return to school on the date advised by the NHS if your child feels well enough.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>My child tests positive for Covid-19 on a PCR</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not send your child to school</li> <li>• Contact school to inform us of the date of return advised by the NHS</li> <li>• Self-isolate any members of the household who are not fully vaccinated and are</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Return to school on the date advised by the NHS if your child feels well enough.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                       |



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|                                                                                                                     | <p>over the age of 18 years and 6 months</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any other children and fully vaccinated adults do not need to self-isolate.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <p><b>Someone in my household has Covid-19 symptoms or tests positive for Covid-19 on a Lateral Flow Device</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Household member with positive result to self-isolate and book a PCR test</li> <li>Self-isolate any members of the household who are not fully vaccinated and are over the age of 18 years and 6 months</li> <li>Any other children and fully vaccinated adults do not need to self-isolate.</li> </ul>                                                                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your child should continue to attend school providing they have no symptoms themselves</li> <li>Please monitor them for any symptoms – note that children with Covid-19 may display mild symptoms such as headache/cold like symptoms.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Someone in my household has Covid-19 symptoms or tests positive for Covid-19 on a PCR</b></p>                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Household member with positive result to self-isolate until date advised by the NHS</li> <li>Other members of the household should book a PCR test</li> <li>Self-isolate any members of the household who are not fully vaccinated and are over the age of 18 years and 6 months</li> <li>Any other children and fully vaccinated adults do not need to self-isolate.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your child should continue to attend school providing they have no symptoms themselves</li> <li>Please monitor them for any symptoms – note that children with Covid-19 may display mild symptoms such as headache/cold like symptoms.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>NHS Test and trace has identified my child as a close contact of a confirmed case of Covid-19</b></p>         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child should continue to attend school</li> <li>NHS Test and Trace will give instructions on whether a PCR test is required and what other measures should be taken to minimise risks.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your child should continue to attend school providing they have no symptoms themselves</li> <li>Please monitor them for any symptoms – note that children with</li> </ul>                                                                         |



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|                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Covid-19 may display mild symptoms such as headache/cold like symptoms.                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>NHS Test and trace has identified a member of my household member as a close contact of a confirmed case of Covid-19</b>       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Your child should continue to attend school</li> <li>• The household member/s must self-isolate if instructed by NHS Test and Trace.</li> </ul>                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Your child should continue to attend school providing they have no symptoms themselves</li> <li>• Please monitor them for any symptoms – note that children with Covid-19 may display mild symptoms such as headache/cold like symptoms.</li> </ul> |
| <b>My child is ill with symptoms not linked to Covid-19 but could be contagious i.e. sickness or is too ill to come to school</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Your child should not attend school</li> <li>• Contact school to inform us on the first day by phone or email</li> <li>• Please keep us updated regarding the absence.</li> </ul> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

**Please keep the school updated throughout the process so that we have an accurate record of your child's situation.**

