



What to do if a student is displaying symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19)

If anyone in your setting develops a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they must be sent home and be advised to follow the [guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#). This sets out that they must:

- self-isolate for at least 10 days
- arrange to have a [test to see if they have coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

Action list

1. In an emergency, call 999 if they are seriously ill or injured or their life is at risk. Do not visit the GP, pharmacy, urgent care centre or a hospital except in an emergency.
2. If applicable, call parents/legal guardian or a member of their household to collect the student and take them home. Advise them that all household members will need to isolate and refer them to the [guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#). Ideally the student should be collected by a parent/legal guardian/housemate and travel home by private transport.
3. If the student is awaiting collection, move them to an isolated room and open a window for ventilation. If it is not possible to isolate them, move them to an area which is at least 2 metres away from other people.
4. Staff caring for a student while they are awaiting collection should maintain 2 metre distancing. If not possible, wear suitable PPE¹:

Situation	PPE
2m distance cannot be maintained	A face mask should be worn
Contact is necessary	Gloves, an apron and a face mask should be worn
Risk of fluids entering the eye (e.g. from coughing, spitting or vomiting)	Eye protection should also be worn

¹ More information on PPE use can be found in the [Safe working in education, childcare and children's social care settings, including the use of personal protective equipment \(PPE\)](#) guidance.

5. If the student needs to go to the bathroom while waiting to be collected, they should use a separate bathroom if possible. The bathroom should be cleaned and disinfected using standard cleaning products before being used by anyone else.
6. Staff/other students who have had contact with the symptomatic student must wash their hands thoroughly for 20 seconds.
7. Advise the student to get tested and notify you of the results. A small number of testing kits are being provided to you. Consider providing a home testing kit, in line with the guidance on use, where you think providing one will significantly increase the likelihood of them getting tested
8. Once the student has left the premises, thoroughly disinfect/clean all surfaces and touch points they came into contact with (including the bathroom if used).

What to do if a student tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19)

1. You must take swift action when you become aware that someone who has attended your setting has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19).
2. You can contact the dedicated advice service, introduced by Public Health England (PHE) and delivered by the NHS Business Services Authority. This can be reached by calling the DfE Helpline on 0800 046 8687 and selecting option 1 for advice on the action to take in response to a positive case.
3. If, following triage, further expert advice is required the adviser will escalate your call to the PHE local health protection team (HPT).
4. The advice service (or HPT if escalated) will work with you to carry out a rapid risk assessment and identify appropriate next steps.
5. With support from the advice service (or HPT), identify close contacts of the symptomatic individual. Contact tracers will inform contacts that they need to self-isolate for 14 days in line with [guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#).
6. For students who are isolating, ensure access to remote provision so that they can continue to learn remotely.
7. A template letter will be provided to you, by the advice service or the health protection team, to send to students, parents, carers and staff if needed.
8. Settings must not share the names of people with coronavirus (COVID-19) unless essential to protect others.

