

## **Information for parents and carers on suspected COVID-19 (coronavirus) in a child**

For general information about COVID-19 please go to <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

**WHEN TO SUSPECT COVID-19 IN YOUR CHILD:** if they develop symptoms of a **new continuous cough** and/or **high temperature** and/or a **loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell** (anosmia)

**Do not** send your child to school or childcare setting. Inform the setting through absence reporting

If your child develops symptoms at the childcare setting, they will be separated from others, and will **be sent home**.

If your child (or anyone in your household) has symptoms they must arrange a test **as soon as possible** and isolate at home for 7 days from date of onset of symptoms (or until they receive a negative result). Everyone else in the household who does not have symptoms must isolate at home for 14 days (or until the symptomatic household member receives a negative result).

Arrange for a coronavirus test for anyone in your household with symptoms either online via [www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus) or call NHS testing line on 119. The test must be done within **five days** of when symptoms start. Ensure you know who to contact with the results in the school / childcare setting if the results are received outside usual working hours.

You will be offered a test at your closest drive-through centre. This is the quickest option. A parent or carer will need to perform the test on children under 12 years old. If you don't drive, you can request a home test kit. **Do not** get a taxi or public transport to the test centre.

Result of test (you will receive this by email or text message)

Negative

Child can return to the setting once well.

If your child is identified as having been in **contact with a confirmed case**, they will need to self-isolate for 14 days. If they develop symptoms, they should isolate for 7 days from onset of symptoms, arrange testing and follow the flowchart above.

For medical advice call NHS 111, or in an emergency call 999

Positive

Inform the school or childcare setting as soon as possible even if outside opening hours. The child's close contacts within the school will be advised to self-isolate for 14 days.

Ensure the child who has tested positive completes the 7 day isolation period (from date of onset of symptom)\*. Household members without symptoms should complete 14 days isolation.

NHS Test & Trace will send you a text or email alert or call you with instructions of how to share details of people with whom you have had close, recent contact and places you have visited.

\*If the child is a confirmed case they can return to the childcare setting / school after 7 days. If they still have a temperature, diarrhoea or are being sick they should wait until 48 hours after these symptoms stop. If the child does not develop symptoms, but lives in a household with someone who has tested positive, they can return to setting after completing 14 days self-isolation at home.