

Test , Trace, Protect

To be used in conjunction with New School Day Guidance – Section 8

Anyone who exhibits any symptoms associated with COVID-19 should not attend school. All symptomatic pupils and staff are expected to follow the advice and obtain a test for COVID-19.

Where an individual has had a **negative result** and **everyone with symptoms who was tested in their household receive a negative result**, the pupil or **member of staff can return to school providing they are well enough and have not had a fever for 48 hours.**

Anyone who tests positive will be contacted by the Contact Tracing Service in the Public Health Agency, and will need to share information about their recent interactions. This could include household members, people with whom you have been in direct contact, or been within 2 metres for more than 15 minutes.

All household members should follow PHA isolation guidance which currently requires everyone in the household to stay at home.

- If you have symptoms of coronavirus or a positive test, you will need to **stay at home for at least 10 days.**
- If you live with someone who has symptoms or a positive test, you will need to **stay at home for 14 days from the day the first person in the home started having symptoms.**
- However, if you develop symptoms during this 14-day period, you will need to self-check in accordance with Test and Trace guidance and **stay at home for 10 days from the day your symptoms started** (regardless of what day you are on in the original 14-day period).
- 10 days after your symptoms started, if you do not have a high temperature, you do not need to continue to self-isolate. If you still have a high temperature, keep self-isolating until your temperature returns to normal. You do not need to self-isolate if you just have a cough after 10 days, as a cough can last for several weeks after the infection has gone.
- If you have symptoms and live with someone who is 70 or over, has a long-term condition, is pregnant or has a weakened immune system, try to find somewhere else they can stay for the 14-day isolation period.
- It is likely that people living within a household will infect each other or be infected already. Staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community.

PHA guidance under the Test and Trace and Protect programme will be **applied for all staff or pupils in contact with someone who tests positive for COVID-19.** Test and Trace staff will contact anyone with a positive test and trace their contacts over the previous 48 hours seeking information on where that individual has been in contact with someone for 15 minutes or more and less than 2 m social distance. **Isolation guidance will then be provided that is context specific and may result in friendship groups, regular contacts and potentially an entire class or 'bubble' being instructed to self-isolate at home.**

Should a COVID-19 confirmed case occur, **the EA cleaning service should be notified. Enhanced cleaning should be carried out within any classroom in which an individual who has developed COVID-19 has been to minimise risk of the spread of the virus.** This should be clearly communicated to staff, parents and pupils to provide assurance that the environment is safe.

Pupils and staff can return to school when they have completed the necessary period of isolation as advised by the Test, Trace and Protect service. This will help contain any potential transmission to those staff/pupils and will also assist in protecting the wider community.