

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) ABSENCE GUIDE FOR PARENTS/CARERS

Schools and educational settings





This guide covers common scenarios that you and your child might encounter in schools, youth groups, madrasas and other educational settings.

Self-isolation means you must not leave the house for any reason (unless they are going for a coronavirus test) and must not have visitors in your home.

Symptoms include at least one of the following: a high temperature, a new continuous cough, or a loss or change in taste/smell.

Thank you for following this advice and playing your part.

What to do if...	Action needed	Back to school...
 <p>...my child has Coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Your child must not go to school ✓ You must book a test for your child ✓ Everyone who lives in the house must self-isolate until you get the test result ✓ Tell the school immediately about test result 	<p>...if your child's test is negative and they have been symptom free for 48 hours.</p>
 <p>...my child tests positive for Coronavirus (COVID-19).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Your child must not go to school ✓ Your child must self-isolate for at least 10 days from when symptoms started (or from day of test if no symptoms) ✓ Tell the school immediately about test result ✓ Your whole household must self-isolate for 10 days from start of symptoms (or from day of test if no symptoms) – even if someone tests negative during those 10 days 	<p>...when your child feels better and has not had 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.</p>
 <p>...my child is sent home because they are in a bubble that the school has closed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Your child must not go to school ✓ Your child must self-isolate for 10 days - even if they test negative during those 10 days ✓ Everyone else who lives in the house does not need to isolate, unless they have been identified as a close contact of someone with a positive result 	<p>...when the school says it is OK for them to return, usually when the child has completed 10 days of self-isolation, even if they test negative during those 10 days.</p>
 <p>...a person who I live with has Coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Your child/children must not attend school ✓ The person with symptoms must get a test ✓ Everyone who lives in the house must self-isolate until they get their result ✓ Tell the school immediately about test result 	<p>... if the person's test is negative and if the child does not have any symptoms.</p>
 <p>...a person who I live with has tested positive for Coronavirus (COVID-19).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Your child/children must not attend school ✓ The person with symptoms must get a test ✓ Everyone who lives in the house must self-isolate for 10 days ✓ Tell the school immediately about test result 	<p>... when child has completed 10 days of isolation, even if they test negative during those 10 days.</p>

What to do if...	Action needed	Back to school...
 <p>...NHS Test and Trace has identified my child as a close contact of someone with symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19). OR ...your child has been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for coronavirus.</p> <p>Examples of close contact include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • close face-to-face contact (under 1 metre) for any length of time – including talking to them or coughing on them • being within 1 to 2 metres of each other for more than 15 minutes – including travelling in a car • spending lots of time together in your/their home 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Your child must not go to school ✓ Your child must self-isolate for 10 days - even if they test negative during those 10 days ✓ Everyone else who lives in the house does not need to isolate, unless they have also been identified as a close contact of someone with a positive result 	<p>...when your child has completed 10 days of self-isolation, even if they test negative during those 10 days.</p>
 <p>...our family has travelled to another country and has to self-isolate as part of a period of quarantine.</p>	<p>Returning from a country where quarantine is needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Your child must not go to school ✓ Everyone who lives in the house must self-isolate for 10 days – even if they test negative during those 10 days <p>To support your child’s education:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Do not take unauthorised leave in school term time ✓ Consider quarantine requirements and official advice when booking travel ✓ Provide information to school as per attendance policy 	<p>...when the quarantine period of 10 days has been completed for the child, even if they test negative during those 10 days.</p>
 <p>...we have received advice from a medical/official source that my child must resume shielding.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Your child must not go to school ✓ Contact school as advised by attendance officer/pastoral team ✓ Your child must shield until you are told that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again 	<p>...when your school or other agencies tell you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can go back to school again.</p>
 <p>...I am not sure who should get a test for coronavirus (COVID-19).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Only people with symptoms should get a test ✓ People without symptoms are not advised to get a test, even if they are a ‘close contact’ of someone who tests positive 	<p>...check with your local school for advice if you are unsure or go to nhs.uk/coronavirus for more information.</p>

If you need any advice or support, including help with shopping, you can call the Rotherham Heroes on 01709 807319. For urgent medical advice call 111.

Updated advice and guidance is available from www.gov.uk/coronavirus and www.rotherham.gov.uk/coronavirus