

School confirmed case FAQS

There is a confirmed case of Covid-19 at my child's educational setting, what should I do?

The following answers to the most common questions asked aim to help our parents and carers understand the facts and the arrangements that have been put in place:

Q. Is the staff member unwell and how was Covid-19 detected?

A. The staff member with the confirmed case is well and only has mild symptoms. They are isolating at home. They were tested as a precaution on Monday and have been at home since.

Q. When does the 14 days begin?

A. The 14-day period starts from when the class bubble were last in contact with the positive case, which was Monday 19th October.

Q. When can the class bubble affected return?

A. Children can return to school on Tuesday 3rd November 2020.

Q. Can key worker children from the affected bubble class still attend?

A. No – the guidance is very clear that all children within the bubble must isolate for the 14-day period.

Q. Can siblings of the bubble class still attend?

A. Yes, the guidance is clear that only the children within the bubble who had direct contact need to isolate. Other family members can carry on as normal unless anyone in the household develops symptoms.

Q. My child is in another class/bubble, should I send them in?

A. Yes - national guidance is that all children who are not in the affected bubble are expected to attend school as normal.

Q. Should I get my child tested for Covid-19?

A. No, please don't get them tested UNLESS they develop any of the Covid-19 symptoms:

- **a high temperature** – where your child feels hot to touch on their chest or back
- **or a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- **or a loss or change to sense of smell or taste** – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If a child is tested without symptoms, or too soon this could result in a false negative, which means they receive a negative result before symptoms develop and they do in fact go on to develop Covid-19.

Q. I have siblings in both the closed class and other classes, and don't have anyone to look after my isolating child to bring my other child/children to school. What do I do?

A. We are consulting Public Health England to try and find a safe solution to this and are working with parents in this situation to try and find solutions for them such as pick up/drop off earlier or later than others, other parents collecting and dropping off their other child/children or teachers meeting the other child/children from a vehicle drop off point. We will be back in contact with individual parents ASAP.

Q. Who is responsible for the guidance around siblings?

A. Public Health England and the Department for Education.

Q. My child is isolating, will they be sent home learning?

A. Children from the bubble that is isolating will receive a home learning offer. Home learning will not be provided to other year groups in line with guidance from the local authority. It is expected that all other children will attend school.

Q. Will the bubble classroom be deep cleaned?

A. Yes, the class and all resources and areas which children in the affected bubble have used will be deep cleaned.

Q. Why has the whole school/setting not been closed for a deep clean?

A. Due to the bubble system and children not accessing areas within the school beyond their class there is no need to change our already enhanced cleaning programme for other areas. The classroom and cloakroom have been deep cleaned.

Q. Are children sharing any outside learning areas?

A. No, classes have been kept separate in their own outdoor areas.

Q. Do children from different classes play together at break times?

A. No, children from each class have designated spaces for their bubble. They do not mix across the bubbles.

General Questions about arrangements

Q. My child has a cold should I get a Covid-19 test?

A. Only if they have any of the symptoms of Covid-19. It is fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or cold. They should attend school if they are fit to do so. But if they have a fever, keep them off school until the fever goes. Get advice if you're worried about your child and not sure what to do – it could be another illness and not Covid-19.

Q. In what other circumstances should I NOT send my child to school?

A. South Gloucestershire Council has produced a quick Covid-19: Is my child too ill for school? guide for parents and carers to help you understand when NOT to send your child to school, the steps to take and when to send them back. Visit www.southglos.gov.uk/schoolreturn to view the guide.

Q. Can school provide me with a test?

A. No, if a child is displaying symptoms a test should be booked through <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>. Each school has been given 10 tests to be used in emergencies for children displaying symptoms where parents are unable to access a test site and need support.

Q. Should parents and carers socially distance when dropping off and collecting their child/children?

A. Yes - please remain two metres apart where possible and wash your hands before and after visiting school. We are staggering start and finish times and are using different points of entry to minimise the number of people on site at any one time.

Q. Do I need to wear a face covering when I come to the school/setting?

A. Parents and carers are not required to wear a face covering unless they enter the school building. If you would feel more comfortable wearing a face covering at school drop off and pick up, of course you are welcome to do so.

Q. Are staff social distancing in school/setting?

A. Yes - staff are doing everything they can to maintain social distancing.