

Advice that school has been given from EA and the PHA has been contradictory and seems to change on a daily basis! Below are some questions which you may have about your child and school procedures regarding Covid 19. I will update this FAQ page regularly as new guidance filters to school.

# What symptoms mean that I should keep my child at home and seek a test?

If your child has a **temperature over 37.8 degrees**, has a **new persistent cough** or a **loss of taste and smell** you should keep them at home and seek a test. The World Health Organisation has also added to that list

- > Cold or flu symptoms
- > Aches and pains
- > Sore throat
- Diarrhoea / Upset stomach
- Conjunctivitis

Whilst EA and the PHA only advises keeping your child at home if they exhibit the first 3 symptoms, please also be mindful of these other possible indicators.

In normal circumstances a child should not be returning to school for 48 hrs after vomiting/diarrhoea.

### How do I seek a test if my child has symptoms?

Currently the PHA will only arrange a test for your child if they exhibit one of the three main symptoms of Covid 19. You should book a test online at

www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test or ring 119 if you have no internet access.

School will shortly have access to home test kits to distribute to children who cannot get a test within a reasonable time frame.

You should inform school if your child is being tested as we have to keep a record and obviously share the test results.

### If my child has a negative test when can they return to school?

The EA advise that children can return to school after a negative test as long as they have not had a high temperature for 48 hrs. It has been the case in other schools already this term, that pupils testing negative develop other symptoms in the next couple of days and are positive on retest.

### If my child has symptoms do their brothers and sisters have to stay off school too?

Any siblings should remain at home too until a negative test result comes through. At this point, if they are symptom free they may return to school.

#### If my child tests positive what will happen?

If your child has a positive test result they will need to stay at home for 10 days. At that point they can return to school if their temperature is normal.

Any siblings of a positive case must self-isolate for 14 days.

Work will be set home for all children if they are not able to be in school. This can be completed if the child is well enough to do so. Completed work can be photographed and uploaded to the school website for teacher comment.

#### If there is a positive case in school what will happen?

Every parent in school will get a letter to inform them that there has been a positive case in school.

Children in the class bubble of the child who has tested positive will get a different letter explaining that they should stay at home for 14 days and seek a test if they develop any symptoms. They should remain at home for 14 days regardless of whether they have a negative test result or not. Their siblings can attend school as usual.

### My child has a runny nose. Should they stay at home?

In Hezlett Primary, as a precaution, we are asking that if your child has symptoms of a 'cold' that you keep them at home for a day to see if anything further develops. If there is no high temperature or cough, then they can return to school the next day.

# What will happen if my child has a high temperature when they present at school in the morning?

Your child's temperature is taken on entry to school each morning. If they have a temperature of 37.8 or over a member of staff will tell the child that the temperature reader is playing up (so as not to alarm the child) and ask the child to take off their coat and wait for a few minutes. Their temperature will be take again.

Should their temperature still read high, then a member of staff will take your child to the school polytunnel where there is lots of ventilation and wait there with the child. You will be contacted and asked to collect your child. You should seek a test for your child.

## What will happen if my child exhibits symptoms of Covid 19 during the school day?

If your child is ill during the school day we would be contacting you, as we do under normal circumstances.

If the child develops a temperature, starts coughing persistently or complains of loss of taste or smell, we will isolate the child from their class bubble as in the question above. You should seek a Covid test for your child.

### My child gets Free School Meals. What happens if they are self-isolating for 14 days and can't be in school?

The school meals service will make up a pack of food to the value of £2.60 x 15 (£26) and this will be delivered to your home.

# What measures are you taking in school to ensure good hygiene?

Closing school half an hour earlier daily enables our cleaning team and classroom assistants to sanitise rooms carefully. The lunchtime closure on a Wednesday gives extra time for an enhanced clean of all classroom equipment and corridors and use of our fogging machine in all areas.

External sanitising stations have been added to each entry point to school and pupils are already in the habit of using these. Each classroom has a supply of sanitising gel, although many pupils bring individual bottles for their own use. Handwashing is routine throughout the school day.

Should you have any other queries please email me on dwinters565@c2kni.net and I will add that information to this list.