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RESPONDING TO A SUSPECTED OR CONFIRMED CASE OF COVID-19

<p>RECOGNISING THE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19</p>	<p>If you have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), get a test as soon as possible. The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)• new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)• loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal
<p>IF SYMPTOMS DEVELOP DURING THE SCHOOL DAY:</p>	<p>If a student or staff member develops symptoms of the coronavirus, they will be sent home and advised to self-isolate immediately, only leaving the house to access a test.</p> <p>If a student is awaiting collection, they will be moved, if possible, to a room where they can be isolated behind a closed door, with appropriate adult supervision. Ideally, a window will be opened for ventilation. If it is not possible to isolate them, they will be moved to an area which is at least 2 metres away from other people.</p> <p>The individual must self-isolate until they have the results of a test.</p>
<p>IF A STUDENT/STAFF MEMBER BEGINS DISPLAYING SYMPTOMS OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL:</p>	<p>The individual must not come to school. We will encourage them to seek a test and request that they inform the school of the outcome of their test.</p> <p>If the individual displaying symptoms arrives at school before taking the test, they will be sent home immediately.</p> <p>The individual must self-isolate until they have the results of a test.</p>



<p>HOW TO ACCESS A TEST:</p>	<p>Tests can be booked online through the NHS testing and tracing for coronavirus website, or ordered by telephone via NHS 119 for those without access to the internet. Essential workers, which includes anyone involved in education or childcare, have priority access to testing.</p>
<p>IF A STUDENT OR STAFF MEMBER TESTS POSITIVE – IDENTIFYING OTHERS WHO NEED TO SELF-ISOLATE.</p>	<p>When an individual tests positive for COVID-19 the NHS Test and Trace programme is engaged. For schools, this means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The NHS will liaise with that individual to understand their recent movements• The team will contact the school to carry out a 'rapid risk assessment' and confirm who has been in close contact with the person during the period that they were infectious.• The school will need to have information readily available, on:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Which children and staff are in which groups in school- Which children travel to school on home to school transport• If the student has used home to school transport the school may need to liaise with the operator directly to ascertain any additional children using the same transport who also need to self-isolate• The school will send home those staff/students identified as having been in close contact with the person who has tested positive, advising them to self-isolate for 14 days since they were last in close contact with that person• The NHS will also liaise with the family (if it is a student) to identify any out of school/ social close contacts. Schools are not expected to know which contacts their staff or students have had outside of school. <p>Household members of those contacts who are sent home do not need to self-isolate themselves unless the child, young person or staff member who is self-isolating subsequently develops symptoms. If this occurs, they must follow the process for anyone who develops COVID 19 symptoms; self-isolate and seek a test.</p>



<h2>SELF-ISOLATION FOLLOWING A POSITIVE TEST</h2>	<p>If an individual tests positive they must continue to self-isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of their symptoms and then return to school only if they do not have symptoms other than cough or loss of sense of smell/taste (anosmia). This is because a cough or anosmia can last for several weeks once the infection has gone. If they still have a high temperature, they should keep self-isolating until their temperature returns to normal.</p> <p>The 10-day period starts from the day when they first became ill.</p> <p>Other members of their household should continue self-isolating for the full 14 days.</p> <p>Refer: ‘stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection’</p>
<h2>INFORMING PUBLIC HEALTH OF POSITIVE CASE/S</h2>	<p>If there is a confirmed case within the school in a member of staff or student, we will immediately inform Public Health.</p>
<h2>WHO SHOULD ACCESS A TEST?</h2>	<p>The symptomatic individual should access a test as soon as possible.</p> <p>The symptoms for testing are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)• new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)• loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you’ve noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal <p>Contacts of this individual should only access testing if they themselves become symptomatic.</p> <p>If a contact who has been asked to self-isolate, goes on to display symptoms, accesses a test but it is negative – they still cannot return to school until they have completed their 14 days isolation period (this is because they still might go on to become positive during the 14 days).</p>



ACCESSING TESTING	<p>Tests can be booked online through the NHS testing and tracing for coronavirus website, or ordered by telephone via NHS 119 for those without access to the internet.</p> <p>The options for the test are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• at a local test site today and get the results tomorrow• with a home test kit if they cannot get to a test site, results expected within 72 hours.
ACCESSING TESTING FOR CHILDREN:	<p>Anyone with symptoms can get a coronavirus test, whatever their age. Parents should book a test via the NHS testing and tracing for coronavirus website, or order by telephone via 119 for those without access to the internet.</p>
RETURNING TO SCHOOL/WORK	<p>Where the original individual tests negative, they can return to their setting and the fellow household members can end their self-isolation.</p> <p>Where the student/staff member tests positive – they may return to school after 10 days from the onset of their symptoms and then return only if they do not have symptoms other than cough or loss of sense of smell/taste (anosmia). This is because a cough or anosmia can last for several weeks once the infection has gone. If they still have a high temperature, they should keep self-isolating until their temperature returns to normal.</p> <p>If someone is symptomatic, tests positive and works with a vulnerable group/individual, who has greater vulnerability than the general population, it is sensible they are excluded for 14 rather than 10 days.</p>
REMOTE LEARNING FOR THOSE SELF-ISOLATING	<p>Where a student is unable to attend school because they, and/or their parents, are complying with clinical or public health advice, the school will offer access to remote education.</p> <p>The expectations around remote learning are included in the Remote Education Support Guidance found on the Academy website.</p>



FAQ'S

<p>WHAT HAS THE SCHOOL DONE TO PREPARE FOR A POTENTIAL CASE OF COVID-19?</p>	<p>Schools have lists of the following, readily available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Which students and staff are allocated to which groups in school (i.e. class groups, or 'bubbles')• The seating plans for each group/class• Which students travel to school on home to school transport• Any close contact that takes places between students and staff in different groups <p>Schools will be able to 'switch on' remote learning provision for children who are asked to self-isolate, as quickly as possible.</p>
<p>WHAT IS DEFINED AS A 'CLOSE CONTACT'?</p>	<p>Close contacts are defined as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• direct close contacts - face to face contact, for any length of time, within 1 metre, including being coughed on, a face to face conversation, or unprotected physical contact (skin-to-skin)• proximity contacts - extended close contact (within 1 to 2 metres for more than 15 minutes)• travelling in a small vehicle, like a car
<p>WHAT DOES THE TEST AND TRACE PROGRAMME MEAN FOR SCHOOLS?</p>	<p>As part of the national test and trace programme, if cases occur within the school community, the NHS Track and Trace Team or PHE will undertake a rapid investigation and advise the school on the most appropriate action to take.</p> <p>In some cases, a larger number of other children/young people may be asked to self-isolate at home as a precautionary measure – perhaps the whole class, site or year group.</p> <p>It is not expected that closure of the whole school will be necessary where schools are following advice around infection control.</p>



DO OTHER STAFF MEMBERS NEED TO SELF-ISOLATE IF A STAFF MEMBER TESTS POSITIVE?	<p>No, other staff members outside of those identified through the NHS Track and Trace Team's investigation do not need to self-isolate if a teacher or other staff member contracts COVID-19.</p> <p>The reason for this is because staff members should be able to implement social distancing when at work. It is appreciated that this will not always be possible with children in the classroom and so the Track and Trace Team will advise on this.</p>
WHO DO WE NEED TO INFORM OF A POSITIVE CASE?	<p>As soon as a student or staff member has tested positive for COVID-19, the school will notify the Public Health England (PHE) for advice about the most appropriate response.</p>
SHOULD A SCHOOL CLOSE TO DEEP CLEAN?	<p>It is not necessary to close the whole school site to deep clean as a result of a case of COVID-19. It is advised that, if possible, students/staff are moved away from the area in which the symptomatic individual has been in order to clean.</p>
IF A GROUP OF PEOPLE ARE ASKED TO ISOLATE BUT INDIVIDUALS WITHIN THAT GROUP RETURN A NEGATIVE TEST, CAN THEY RETURN TO SCHOOL?	<p>Those identified by the NHS Track and Trace Team must self-isolate for 14 days. This is because it may take a number of days for symptoms to show, in the meantime the individual could return a negative test but then go on to become positive.</p>
SHOULD WE INFORM PARENTS OF A CASE OF COVID-19 IN SCHOOL.	<p>It is necessary for the school to inform the close contacts and their families as soon as possible as it allows parents, children and staff to be even more vigilant.</p> <p>Schools will not share the names or details of people with coronavirus (COVID-19) unless essential to protect others.</p>