

Sickness absence

Covid -19

## **1. Displaying coronavirus symptoms**

Anyone who begins to display coronavirus symptoms while in our setting will be sent home immediately as per our risk assessment and follow government guidelines on [what to do if you or someone in your household develops symptoms](#).

If a child is waiting to be collected, they will be separated from their group and isolated with one member of staff. A facemask will be worn if a distance of 2 metres cannot be maintained from a child who is symptomatic and awaiting collection and if contact is necessary, then gloves, an apron and a facemask will be worn. If there is a risk of splashing to the eyes, for example from coughing or spitting, then eye protection will also be worn. Our school will ensure staff are prepared to respond in line with the [guidance on protective measures in education and childcare settings](#) and [guidance on using PPE in education, childcare and children's social care settings](#).

Once the child or member of staff has left the setting, we will follow [Cleaning of non-healthcare settings](#) to ensure areas we have been in are disinfected and any PPE and other waste is disposed of safely.

## **2. Testing and self-isolation**

All staff and children who are attending our setting will have access to a test if they display symptoms of coronavirus, and are encouraged to get tested in this scenario. Where the child or staff member tests negative, they can return to their setting and the fellow household members can end their self-isolation. If the child or staff member tests positive, the rest of their immediate group within their setting will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days. The other household members of those advised to self-isolate do not need to self-isolate unless the child or staff member they live with subsequently develops symptoms. We take appropriate steps to deputise responsibilities or arrange cover if

affected members of staff fulfil designated roles, for example paediatric first aid, SENCO or safeguarding lead.

## **2. Testing and self-isolation**

As part of the national test and trace programme, if other cases are detected within the setting, Public Health England's local health protection teams will conduct a rapid investigation and will advise settings on the most appropriate action to take. In some cases, a larger group may be asked to self-isolate at home as a precautionary measure. As we are observing guidance on infection prevention and control, which will reduce risk of transmission, closure of the whole setting will not generally be necessary.

Emergency contacts are updated in advance of wider opening and we consider where these may need to change, for example if previous emergency contacts are in a shielded group.

We have communicated our protocol to parents and carers and ensure they understand their role and will be available to collect their child if necessary.