








COVID-19 (coronavirus) absence:

A quick guide for parents/carers

What to do if...	Action needed	Back to school/early years setting ...
 <p>...my child has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms*</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school/early years setting • Child should have a PCR test ** • Whole household (and support /childcare bubble) self-isolates while waiting for test result • Inform school/early years setting immediately of test result 	<p>...when child's PCR test comes back negative and free from fever for 48 hours</p> <p>A negative PCR result means the test did not find coronavirus at the time of the test. They can return to school/early years setting when feeling well enough. Coughs and loss of smell/ taste may last several weeks if the child had another virus such as a cold or flu.</p>
 <p>...my child tests positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus) on a Lateral Flow Test (LFD Test)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school/early years setting • Child should get a confirmatory PCR test if LFD Test was completed at home • Child and whole household self-isolates (including support/childcare bubble) for at least 10 days as advised • Inform school/early years setting immediately of result 	<p>... when the isolation period has been completed and the child feels better, and has been without a fever for at least 48 hours. They can return to school/early years setting after 10 days</p> <p>OR if the confirmatory PCR test is negative</p>
<p>...my child tests positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus) on a PCR test</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school/early years setting • Child self-isolates for at least 10 days as advised • Inform school/early years setting immediately of result • Whole household (and support/childcare bubble) self-isolates for 10 days as advised 	<p>..when the isolation period has been completed and the child feels better, and has been without a fever for at least 48 hours. They can return to school/early years setting after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of smell / taste</p>
 <p>...somebody in my household or support/childcare bubble has COVID-19 symptoms*</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school/early years setting • Household(or support/childcare bubble)member with symptoms should get a PCR test ** • Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result • Inform school immediately about test results 	<p>...when household member test is negative, and child does not have COVID-19 symptoms*</p>

* Symptoms include at least one of a high temperature; a new continuous cough; a loss of or change to your sense of smell or taste.
For further details visit: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

** Visit <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> or call 119

What to do if...		Action needed	Back to school/early years setting ...
	...somebody in my household or support /childcare bubble has tested positive for COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school/early years setting • Whole household (and support/childcare bubble) are close contacts and will self-isolate for 10 days as advised - even if you or someone else tests negative during those 10 days 	...when child has completed 10 days of self-isolation, even if they test negative during the 10 days
	... my child has been identified as a 'close contact' of a confirmed COVID-19 (coronavirus) case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child should not attend school/early years setting • Child should self-isolate for 10 days as advised – even if they test negative during those 10 days • Rest of household does not need to self-isolate, unless they have also been identified as a 'close contact' of someone with a positive result or they develop symptoms 	...when the child has completed their period of self-isolation, even if they test negative during those 10 days
	...we have received advice from my child's GP or the NHS that my child must resume shielding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school/early years setting • Contact school/early years setting as advised by attendance officer / pastoral team • Child should shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again 	..if you receive advice from your child's GP or the NHS that your child no longer needs to shield and can return to school/ early years setting Or, when you are informed that shielding is paused
I am not sure who should get a test for COVID -19 (coronavirus)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People with symptoms* need to book a PCR test through NHS Test & Trace. Call 119 or visit https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test • People without symptoms* can get a rapid (lateral flow) test as part of a testing scheme for people without symptoms (e.g. at a community test site, or through school/workplace testing schemes, etc). 	

For further information: www.derbyshire.gov.uk/coronavirus (Adapted from a document produced by Greater Manchester. Updated 24.03.21)