

Learning in Springfield Primary

Advice for schools on isolation during the school day

The key symptoms for Covid-19 are:

- a high temperature - you feel hot to touch on your chest or back
- a new continuous cough - this means you've started coughing repeatedly

Displaying these symptoms means that you should self-isolate with your family, including everyone in your household, for 14 days. Do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital. Do not contact 111.

Q	What happens if a child begins to develop symptoms during the school day?
A	<p>The child should be isolated in a designated area (deputy heads office) which separates them from their peers and from staff. A minimum 2m distance is recommended, but schools will need to decide on the appropriate amount of supervision required. This will be dependent on the age of the child and whether they have any additional vulnerabilities. The member of staff supporting the child may need to be considered carefully, particularly if they have underlying health conditions which the school is aware of.</p> <p>Schools may need to respond quickly if there are multiple children showing symptoms, and a larger space may be required in order to maintain a 2m distance.</p> <p>When child is in isolated area staff to wear PPE and monitor child's health and wellbeing from a safe distance.</p> <p>When parents arrive to collect, it should be made clear that they should leave the school site immediately and begin self-isolation at home for 14 days. They should not visit their GP, pharmacy or hospital, or call 111. Siblings (and other members of the same household) should be taken home at the same time.</p> <p>Once children have been collected and taken home, the areas where they have been in school should be deep cleaned. Staff who have interacted with the child should wash their hands for at least 20 seconds, with soap and water, change their clothing and dispose of PPE appropriately.</p>

Q	What happens if a child begins to develop symptoms during the school day and their parents disagree with the view that they should go home?
A	<p>There may be parents and carers who feel that the symptoms are not related to Covid-19 and do not agree that their children are sent home. This is a sensitive issue and needs to be discussed with the parent, explaining that these are unprecedented times and we need their support. We cannot care for sick children in school or risk the virus spreading. Some parents will agree to collect their children regardless, but there may be others who either refuse or cannot get to the school before the end of the school day. In these circumstances, schools need to be clear with parents that they will continue providing learning and/or pastoral support as appropriate, but the pupil will be isolated.</p>

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Q	What happens if a member of staff begins to develop symptoms during the school day?
A	<p>Advise them to leave the school site immediately and begin self-isolation at home for themselves and their family for 14 days. They should not visit their GP, pharmacy or hospital, or call 111.</p> <p>If they feel too unwell to leave, provide them a place to rest where they are isolated from others and ask if there is someone else the school could call. If they become seriously unwell, it may be appropriate to call 111 or 999 in an emergency. This area should be deep cleaned immediately after they have left the site. Staff who have interacted with this colleague should wash their hands for at least 20 seconds, with soap and water.</p>

NHS advice around what to do if isolating at home.

<p>Do</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ try to keep at least 2 metres (3 steps) from other people in your home, particularly older people or those with long-term health conditions ✓ ask friends and family and delivery services to deliver things like food shopping and medicines – but avoid contact with them ✓ sleep alone if possible ✓ regularly wash your hands with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds ✓ try to stay away from older people and those with long-term health conditions ✓ drink plenty of water and take everyday painkillers, such as paracetamol and ibuprofen, to help with your symptoms 	<p>Don't</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ do not have visitors (ask people to leave deliveries outside) ✗ do not leave the house, for example to go for a walk, to school or public places
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Click [here](#) for the last advice about staying at home.

Use the NHS 111 online coronavirus service if:

- you feel you cannot cope with your symptoms at home
- your condition gets worse
- your symptoms do not get better after 7 days

[Use the 111 coronavirus service](#)

Only call 111 if you cannot get help online.

Department for Education coronavirus helpline

The Department for Education coronavirus helpline is available to answer questions about COVID-19 relating to education and children's social care. Staff, parents and young people can contact this helpline as follows:

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday), 10am to 4pm (Saturday to Sunday)

Please note, we are currently experiencing high volumes of calls. We appreciate your patience at this time and apologise for any wait that you may experience. To ensure that we answer your calls as quickly as possible we have now extended our opening hours to cover weekends.

If you work in a school, please have your unique reference number (URN or UK PRN) available when calling the hotline.

