



COVID-19 related student absences – a quick reference guide for parents and guardians



What to do if:	Action needed	Return to school when
My child has COVID-19 symptoms: ✓ High temperature; ✓ A new continuous cough; ✓ A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.	Do not come to school; Inform the school; Self-isolate the whole household for 14 days; Get a test; Inform the school immediately about the test result.	The test comes back negative.
My child tests positive for COVID-19.	Do not come to school; Inform the school; Agree an earliest date for possible return, minimum 10 days; Isolate/blended learning.	They feel better. They can return after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of tastes/small. These symptoms can last for several weeks.
My child tests negative.	Contact the school; Discuss when your child can come back to school (same day/next day).	The test comes back negative.
My child is ill with symptoms not linked to COVID-19.	Follow the school absence policy.	After 48 hours following last bout of sickness /diarrhoea if this is the cause of absence.
Someone in my household has COVID-19 symptoms.	Do not come to school; Inform the school; Self-isolate the whole household for 14 days; Household member to be tested; Inform the school immediately about the test result.	The test comes back negative.
Someone in my household tests positive for COVID-19.	Do not come to school; Inform the school; Agree an earliest date for possible return, minimum 14 days.	The child has completed 14 days of self-isolation.
NHS Test, Trace, protect has identified my child has been in close contact of someone with symptoms of confirmed COVID-19.	Do not come to school; Inform the school; Agree an earliest date for possible return, minimum 14 days.	The child has completed 14 days of self-isolation.

What to do if:	Action needed	Return to school when
We/my child has travelled and has to self-isolate as a period of quarantine.	Do not take unauthorised leave in term time; Consider quarantine requirements and government advice when booking travel; Returning from a destination where quarantine is needed; Agree an earliest date from return date; Minimum of 14 days from return date; Self-isolate the whole household.	The quarantine period of 14 days has been completed.
We have received medical advice that my child must resume shielding.	Do not come to school; Contact the school; Shield until you are informed that restrictions have been lifted and shielding is paused again.	School informs you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school.
Due to an outbreak of COVID-19 in school my child's contact group is told to self-isolate.	Do not come to school; At home support your child with blended learning provide by the school; Your child will need to isolate for 14 days.	School will confirm the date when the contact can restart school.