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COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions

Q My child is undertaking regular lateral flow tests (LFT). They do not have symptoms but the lateral flow test is positive. What should I do?

A If your child is asymptomatic and tests positive on a LFT test you do not need to have this confirmed with a PCR test. Your child should isolate for 10 days.

However, they may take a lateral flow test on days 5 and 6 of the isolation period - these tests must be 24 hours apart. If both tests are negative, and they do not have a temperature, the child may return to school from day 6 (day 1 is 24 hours after testing positive or developing symptoms). If either of the day 5 or day 6 tests are positive, your child must stay in isolation until they have 2 consecutive negative tests (taken 24 hours apart). It is essential that 2 negative rapid lateral flow tests are taken on consecutive days and reported before individuals return to their job or education, if leaving self-isolation earlier than the full 10-day period.

Q My child has symptoms of COVID-19. What should I do?

A If your child has symptoms of COVID-19 you should not use a LFT to confirm this. Your child should isolate and you should book a free PCR test [Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Q My child has tested positive for COVID-19. How long do they need to isolate?

A Children (and adults) who test positive for COVID-19 should isolate for 10 days. However, they may take a lateral flow test on days 5 and 5 of the isolation period - these tests must be 24 hours apart. If both tests are negative the child may return to school after the negative test result on day 6 (day 1 is 24 hours after testing positive or developing symptoms). It is essential that 2 negative rapid lateral flow tests are taken on consecutive days and reported before individuals return to their job or education, if leaving self-isolation earlier than the full 10-day period.

Q I have tested positive for COVID-19. Can my child still come to school?

A Yes, your child can still come to school. However, following published guidance, from 14 December, (adults and) children over 5 years of age who are a close contact of someone testing positive for COVID-19 should take a lateral flow device (LFD) test every day for 7 days. Please report the results of your child's LFD test to the school office via email (office@headlandsce.net) before 9am each day for the duration of the 7-day testing period.

If your child tests negative, they should continue to attend school each day during the 7-day period.

If they test positive, they should self-isolate and you should [order a PCR test](#) .



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Q My child has a new cough/temperature can they come to school?

A. The NHS advise that if your child has any symptom of COVID-19 you should do the following:

1. Get a PCR test (test that is sent to a lab) to check if they have COVID-19 as soon as possible.
2. Your child should stay at home and not have visitors (self-isolate) until you get the test result - they can only leave home to have the test.

The NHS guidance relating to Coronavirus symptoms in children was updated on 22 December 2021. The main symptoms of COVID-19 continue to be listed as:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough - this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste - this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

This advice can be found by following this link [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) symptoms in children - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

Please note that all of the information above is taken directly from government (NHS) information which was up to date on 24th January 2022.