

Prevent the spread of infection by maintaining high standards of hygiene, including hand washing and regular cleaning and disinfection of surfaces. This will help prevent COVID-19, as well as other infectious diseases, spreading in schools.

If you have any infection control concerns or questions please call the **Department for Education helpline on 0800 046 8687**.

You should only call the HPT on 0300 303 8162 for confirmed outbreaks or if advised to do so by the Dept. for Education helpline.

The HPT do not need to be notified of single confirmed cases at this time.

GUIDANCE: Visit [gov.uk/coronavirus](https://gov.uk/coronavirus) for detailed schools guidance and other guidance

TESTING: Visit [nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test](https://nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test) or call 119.

**SUSPECTED case in child or staff member**

Only contact the HPT if:

- 1) The symptomatic person has been admitted to Hospital
- 2) The Possible case can't or won't get tested.
- 3) The Possible case has DEFINITE link to a confirmed case.

Ensure the case isolates for 10 days EXCLUDING day of onset) Household of the case isolates for 14 days. The class/groups do NOT need to isolate for a suspected case.

Cases must stay at home and get tested.

Clean and disinfect rooms the suspected case was using – ensure appropriate PPE (gloves and apron) are used.

No further action is needed until the test result is known.

Result of test?

Negative for COVID-19

Case can return once well. Household can stop self-isolating and carry on as normal.

**IF the CHILD is in the setting –** Isolate away from others and send home.

(Refer to PPE guidance if personal care is required within 2m)

**CONFIRMED case in child or staff member**

Contact the DfE helpline on 0800 046 8687 to notify of single confirmed case so they can support risk assessment and follow up.

Only call the HPT IF you have been advised to escalate by the DfE.

Ensure the case isolates for 10 days EXCLUDING day of onset) Household of the case isolates for 14 days.

The class/group assessed to be close contacts with the case need to be sent home to self-isolate for 14 days. The household of the wider group do not need to isolate unless the contact subsequently develops symptoms.

Ask symptomatic contacts to get tested.

Clean and disinfect rooms the case was using – ensure appropriate PPE (minimum gloves and apron) are used.

Cases & contacts can return once the isolation period is completed

If the CONFIRMED case has not been in the setting during the infectious period (48 hours before symptoms to 10 days after) then no further action needs to be taken by the school

**2 or more CONFIRMED cases in the same group or class**

Contact PHE SW HPT on 0300 303 8162 to notify of cases so we can support risk assessment and follow up.

Ensure the case isolates for 10 days EXCLUDING day of onset) Household of the case isolates for 14 days.

The class/group assessed to be close contacts with case need to be sent home to self-isolate for 14 days. The household of the wider group do not need to isolate unless the contact subsequently develops symptoms. \* The HPT will help you identify contacts who need to isolate.

Ask symptomatic contacts to get tested. Engage with test and trace.

Clean and disinfect affected rooms / areas – ensure appropriate PPE (minimum gloves and apron) are used. \* Refer to cleaning guidance available on gov.uk

SW HPT will provide tools to support outbreak communications and infection control advice

Call the HPT again if:

- The situation worsens considerably
- There are any hospitalisations or complex cases

Call the Local Authority if:

- There is media interest
- You have any other concerns.

**COVID-19 Case Definition:** (as of 18/05/20)

- A high temperature
- A new, continuous cough
- A loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste

**INFECTIOUS PERIOD:** 48 hours before the onset of symptoms to 10 days after onset.

IF case has no symptoms but a positive test, it is 48 hours prior to test

**Cleaning:** For detailed guidance refer to the guidance on gov.uk:

Routine measures during COVID-19 pandemic should already be to outbreak standard.

PPE should be worn for cleaning – minimum gloves and disposable apron. Consider using face mask and eye protection if risk is high – ie. Cleaning areas where there are visible bodily fluids.

Public areas (e.g. corridors – clean as normal)

Surfaces that could be contaminated need cleaning and disinfection.

All frequently touched surfaces (door handles, taps, table tops, keyboards etc.) should also be cleaned and disinfected.

Use disposable cloths or paper roll, disposable mop heads to clean hard surfaces (e.g. floors, sanitary fittings, chairs, tables)

Use a combined detergent and disinfectant or use a two-stage cleaning process of detergent (household type cleaner) followed by a hypochlorite solution (1000ppm) e.g. diluted Milton. [Check chemicals in use are effective against enveloped viruses]

Avoid splashes and spray when cleaning where possible.

**Waste:** Any COVID-19 related waste should be double-bagged and stored for 72 hours before usual disposal.

Five key principles

