

## Protocol for children who develop symptoms of COVID 19

If a child becomes unwell with symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) while in nursery and needs direct personal care until they can return home. A **fluid-resistant surgical** face mask should be worn by the supervising staff if a distance of 2 metres cannot be maintained. If contact with the child is necessary, then disposable gloves, a disposable apron and a **fluid-resistant surgical** face mask should be worn by the supervising staff.

If a child is awaiting collection, they should be moved, if possible, to a room where they can be isolated behind a closed door, depending on the age of the child and with appropriate adult supervision if required. Ideally, a window should be opened for ventilation. If it is not possible to isolate them, move them to an area which is at least 2 metres away from other people.

If they need to go to the bathroom while waiting to be collected, they should use a separate bathroom if possible. The bathroom should be cleaned and disinfected using standard cleaning products before being used by anyone else.

In an emergency, call 999 if they are seriously ill or injured or their life is at risk.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

If the child has symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), however mild, OR you (parent/carers) have received a positive coronavirus (COVID-19) test result, the clear medical advice is to immediately self-isolate at home for at least 7 days from when your symptoms started.

After 7 days, or longer, if you still have symptoms other than cough or loss of sense of smell/taste, you must continue to self-isolate until you feel better.

You do not need to self-isolate if you only have a cough or loss of sense of smell/taste after 7 days, as these symptoms can last for several weeks after the infection has gone. See the [ending isolation](#) section below for more information.

If you live with others and you are the first in the household to have symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), then you must stay at home for at least 7 days. All other household members who remain well must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the household became ill.

If you develop new coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms at any point after ending your first period of isolation (self or household) then you must follow the same guidance on self-isolation again. The section below (After ending self-isolation and/or household-isolation) has further information.

Once the child has left the setting, settings should follow [Cleaning of non-healthcare settings](#) to ensure areas they have been in are disinfected and any PPE and other waste is disposed of safely.

Where the child tests negative, they can return to the nursery and the fellow household members can end their self-isolation. If the child tests positive, the rest of their immediate group within the nursery should be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days. The other household members of those advised to self-isolate do not need to self-isolate unless the child or staff member they live with subsequently develops symptoms.

If a child becomes unwell with potential symptoms of COVID 19, the nursery will:

- Inform parents/carers who were in the same bubble that they have had close contact within the last 48 hours to let them know you have symptoms of coronavirus COVID-19.
- Ensure that emergency contacts are updated in advance of opening and consider where these may need to change, for example if previous emergency contacts are in a shielded group.
- Inform parents and carers, ensuring they understand their role and will be available to collect their child if necessary.
- Ensure all parents and carers understand that if their child has coronavirus symptoms, or there is someone in their household who does, they should not attend the setting under any circumstances. Ensure parents and carers are aware that all children attending the setting, and members of their household, will have access to a test if they display symptoms of coronavirus and they are encouraged to get tested in this scenario.