

Covid Isolation Rules

The Covid isolation rules for children in primary school has not changed:

If your child has Covid symptoms then they should isolate immediately and go for a PCR test. If the PCR test is positive then the day that symptoms start, counts as day zero of isolation.

If your child has symptoms but their PCR tests comes back negative then they can come out of isolation and return to school once they are well and have been clear of a high temperature for at least 24 hours (without medication).

If your child has no symptoms and takes a lateral flow test which is positive, then they should isolate. The date of the test counts as day 0. There is no requirement to do a PCR test.

If your child has a positive result (either PCR or lateral flow) then they can carry out a lateral flow test on day 5 and day 6 of isolation (no earlier). These tests must be at least 24 hours apart. If both are negative and the child has been clear of a high temperature (without medication) for at least 48 hours then the child can come out of isolation on day 6 and return to school.

If lateral flow tests are not negative on days 5 and 6 then the child can continue to do lateral flow tests, each 24 hours apart, and can come out of isolation when they get two consecutive negative lateral flow tests, or when they have completed 10 full days of isolation, whichever is earliest. If a child does have to complete 10 days of isolation, they would return to school on day 11. Children who have had Covid must also be 48 hours free of a high temperature before they can return to school.

If your child does test positive then we need to know the following information:

- Whether the child had symptoms and if so, when the symptoms started
- Date of test and whether it was a lateral flow or PCR test
- Any special advice/information you have been given by test and trace that might affect the isolation period.

Based on the information you provide, we will inform you by email when we believe your child's isolation dates start and end.

If your child receives free school meals (not universal free meals given to all children in R, 1 and 2) then we will offer you a food parcel for the duration of the isolation, for each child isolating, which we will plan to deliver to you.

If your child is in years 1-6 then you will receive work for your child on Google Classroom the day after you let us know a positive Covid result. Children in Reception will receive details of any activities via Tapestry.

This guidance was also sent out in the February 11th and March 4th editions of School Matters.