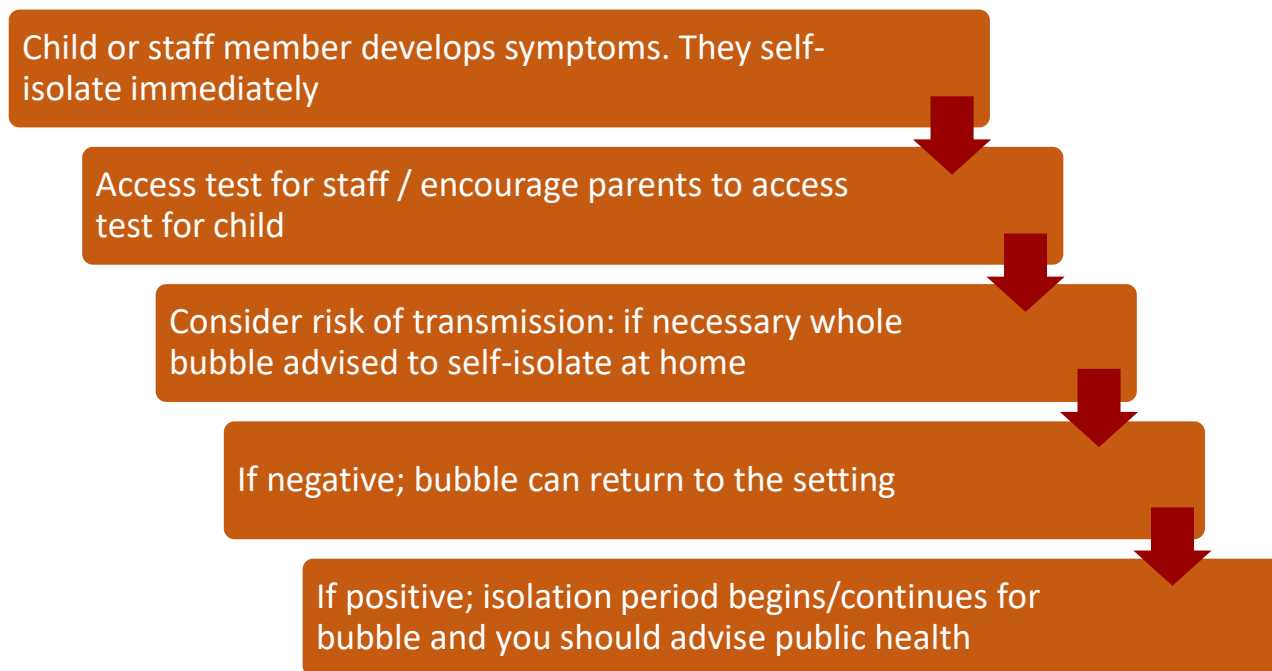


Responding to a suspected or confirmed case of COVID19 – Early Years

Overview:



If symptoms develop during the setting day:	<p>If a child, young person or staff member develops symptoms of the coronavirus, they should be sent home and advised to self-isolate, along with their fellow household members.</p> <p>If a child is awaiting collection, they should be moved, if possible, to a room where they can be isolated behind a closed door, with appropriate adult supervision. 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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>PPE should be worn by staff caring for the child while they await collection if direct personal care is needed and a distance</p>
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	<p>of 2 metres cannot be maintained (such as for a very young child or a child with complex needs).</p>
<p>If a child/staff member begins displaying symptoms outside of setting.</p>	<p>The individual must not come to the setting and you should inform the parents of the rest of the bubble so they can be vigilant around any symptoms developing.</p> <p>If the individual arrives at the setting, they should be sent home immediately.</p>
<p>Isolation for the whole bubble</p>	<p>The DFE guidance states that the whole bubble should self-isolate if any individual in that bubble tests positive for COVID19. It does not deem isolation necessary on the basis of symptoms only, however our suggestion is that you consider this on a case by case basis.</p> <p>You should consider the likely risk of transmission, for example if symptoms developed during the the setting day or the individual had been in very recent contact with the wider bubble when their symptoms developed you may want to ask the whole bubble to self-isolate until such time a test has been obtained. If this is the case and the bubble is asked to isolate and the test result is negative, the bubble may return to the setting.</p> <p>If the individual had not recently been in contact with the bubble i.e. symptoms developed over the weekend, you may feel that it is appropriate for the remainder of the bubble to continue to attend the setting until such time as a test is obtained.</p> <p>If the bubble members are asked to isolate, it is essential that they follow the government guidance and remain at home for 14 days.</p>
<p>Informing Public Health of positive case/s</p>	<p>If there is a confirmed case within the setting in a member of staff or child, you should inform Public Health.</p> <p>To notify a case(s) to PHE, the settings can call Public Health England (PHE) in the East of England on 0300 303 8537 (option 1). If the matter is not urgent, the settings can also email: eoe.crc@phe.gov.uk to notify PHE.</p>

<p>Cleaning the area following a case of COVID 19</p>	<p>All surfaces that the symptomatic person has come into contact with must be cleaned and disinfected, including; bathrooms, door handles, telephones, grab-rails in corridors and stairwells.</p> <p>Use disposable cloths or paper roll and disposable mop heads, to clean all hard surfaces, floors, chairs, door handles and sanitary fittings, following one of the options below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a combined detergent disinfectant solution at a dilution of 1,000 parts per million available chlorine • a household detergent followed by disinfection (1000 ppm av.cl.). Follow manufacturer’s instructions for dilution, application and contact times for all detergents and disinfectants • if an alternative disinfectant is used within the organisation, this should be checked and ensure that it is effective against enveloped viruses <p>Areas where a symptomatic individual has passed through and spent minimal time, such as corridors, but which are not visibly contaminated with body fluids can be cleaned thoroughly as normal.</p> <p>Avoid creating splashes and spray when cleaning.</p> <p>Any cloths and mop heads used must be disposed of and should be put into waste bags as outlined below.</p> <p>The minimum PPE to be worn for cleaning an area where a person with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) is disposable gloves and an apron.</p> <p>Hands should be washed with soap and water for 20 seconds after all PPE has been removed.</p>
<p>Who should access a test?</p>	<p>The symptomatic individual should access a test as soon as possible.</p> <p>The symptoms for testing are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature) • new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in

	<p>24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you’ve noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal <p>The remaining bubble members should only access testing if they themselves become symptomatic.</p> <p>It remains the case that if a bubble member goes on to display symptoms and so accesses a test but it is negative – they still cannot return to the setting/ work until they have completed their 14 days isolation period (this is because they still might go on to become positive during the 14 days).</p>
Accessing testing for staff:	<p>Settings, as employers, can book tests through an online digital portal. There is also an option for employees to book tests directly on the portal.</p>
Accessing testing for children:	<p>To access testing parents will be able to use the 111 online coronavirus service if their child is 5 or over. Parents will be able to call 111 if their child is aged under 5.</p> <p>Parents must be advised to inform the setting of the test result. If negative, verification would be required before returning to the setting.</p>
Returning to the setting/work	<p>Where the original individual tests negative, they can return to their setting and the fellow household members can end their self-isolation.</p> <p>Where the child/staff member tests positive – they may return to the setting after 7 days, providing they are well enough to do so.</p> <p>For clarification, public health have advised that staff and children should not return to the setting after having a positive test and completing their isolation period, if they still have any of these symptoms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a high temperature or feeling hot and shivery • a runny nose or sneezing • feeling or being sick • diarrhoea • loss of appetite

Sources: [safe working in education implementing the protective measures in education](#)
Public Health advice

	<p>If someone is symptomatic, tests positive and works with a vulnerable group/individual, who has greater vulnerability than the general population, it is sensible they are excluded for 14 rather than 7 days.</p>
<p>Disposing of waste</p>	<p>To dispose of waste from people with symptoms of coronavirus, such as disposable cleaning cloths, tissues and PPE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • put it in a plastic rubbish bag and tie it • place the plastic bag in a second bin bag and tie it • put it in a suitable and secure place marked for storage for 72 hours <p>Waste should be stored safely and securely kept away from children. You should not put your waste in communal waste areas until the waste has been stored for at least 72 hours. Storing for 72 hours saves unnecessary waste movements and minimises the risk to waste operatives. This waste does not require a dedicated clinical waste collection in the above circumstances.</p>

Frequently Asked Questions

<p>What does the Track and Trace programme mean for the settings?</p>	<p>As part of the national test and trace programme, if other cases are detected within the cohort or in the wider setting, Public Health England’s local health protection teams will conduct a rapid investigation and will advise the settings and other settings on the most appropriate action to take.</p> <p>In some cases, a larger number of other children, young people may be asked to self-isolate at home as a precautionary measure – perhaps the whole class, site or year group.</p> <p>It is not expected that closure of the whole the setting will be necessary where the settings are following advice around infection control.</p>
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Sources: [safe working in education](#)
[implementing the protective measures in education](#)
Public Health advice

<p>Do other staff members need to self-isolate if a staff member tests positive?</p>	<p>No, other staff members outside of the affected bubble do not need to self-isolate if a teacher or other staff member contracts COVID19. The reason for this is because staff members should be able to implement social distancing when at work. It is appreciated that this will not always be possible with children in the classroom and so the immediate bubble is advised to self-isolate if one of their group contracts the virus. This includes teacher and support staff within the group.</p>
<p>Who do we need to inform of a positive case?</p>	<p>As soon as a pupil or member of staff has tested positive for COVID-19, please notify the Free Entitlement Funding Queries Mailbox and Public Health England.</p> <p>FEEEQueries@essex.gov.uk</p> <p>Public Health England (PHE) in the East of England on 0300 303 8537 (option 1). If the matter is not urgent, the settings can also email: eoecrc@phe.gov.uk to notify PHE.</p>
<p>Should the setting close to deep clean?</p>	<p>It is not necessary to close the whole the setting site to deep clean as a result of a case of COVID19. It is advised that, if possible, children/staff are moved away from the area in which the symptomatic individual has been in order to clean.</p>
<p>If a bubble is asked to isolate but individuals within that group return a negative test, can they return to the setting?</p>	<p>If a member of the bubble tests positive the whole bubble must self-isolate for 14 days. This is because it may take a number of days for symptoms to show, in the meantime the individual could return a negative test but then go on to become positive.</p>
<p>Should we inform parents of a case of COVID19 in the setting.</p>	<p>Yes, it is advisable to inform the affected bubble immediately and the wider the setting community as soon as possible. Transparency at this time is important as it allows parents, children and staff to be even more vigilant.</p>