

Updated FAQs 7 September 2020

If a childminder's own child is sent home from school due to class closure, do childminders then have to close while the child isolates if they have no symptoms

Current guidance does states,

“Household members of those who are sent home do not need to self-isolate themselves unless the child or staff member who is self-isolating subsequently develops symptoms.”

Therefore, unless the child is tested positive, childminders would still be able to operate. Good practice would be to include this in your risk assessment and depending on the age of the child, there could be a solution that will mean that they are kept apart from minded children where possible

If a child attends two EY settings, and one has to close due to a covid case, I presume that the child must also stay away from the other setting for 14 days. Would it be sufficient for the child to be tested? or as symptoms don't occur for several days after infection would a test be pointless and isolation the recommended solution?

The child should not attend the second setting and should self-isolate as per guidance:

If someone in a group that has been asked to self-isolate develops symptoms themselves within their 14-day isolation period, they should follow COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection. They should get a test, and:

- if the test delivers a negative result, they must remain in isolation for the remainder of the 14-day isolation period. This is because they could still develop the coronavirus (COVID-19) within the remaining days*
- if the test result is positive, they should inform their setting immediately, and should isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of their symptoms (which could mean the self-isolation ends before or after the original 14-day isolation period). Their household should self-isolate for at least 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms, following COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection*
- Settings should not request evidence of negative test results or other medical evidence before admitting children or welcoming them back after a period of self-isolation*