

## Coronavirus (COVID-19) - Frequently Asked Questions – March 2020

- **My child has a high temperature and / or a new continuous cough. Should I keep them off school?**

If your child displays either or both of the following two symptoms - **a high temperature or a new continuous cough** – then you should ensure you contact school and let them know this using the usual absence reporting procedure. All household members 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 house became ill.

If you or any family member have coronavirus symptoms:

- do **not** go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital
- you do not need to contact 111 to tell them you're staying at home
- testing for coronavirus is not needed if you're staying at home

Plan ahead and ask others for help from others to ensure that you can successfully stay at home and consider what your employer, friends and family to help you to get the things you need to stay at home. You may need to set up an online shopping account.

If you feel you cannot cope with your symptoms at home, or your condition gets worse, or your symptoms do not get better after 7 days, then use the NHS 111 online coronavirus service. If you do not have internet access, call NHS 111. For a medical emergency dial 999an be done for vulnerable people in the household.

- **When can my child return to school after a period of self-isolation?**

The health guidance from the Government states that your child is able to return to school after a period of 14 day self-isolation if they are well but still have a cough, as this may last for some time after your self-isolation has finished.

- **Can I send my child into school wearing a face mask?**

Face masks play a very important role in places like hospitals, but there is very little evidence of widespread benefit for members of the public.

- **Is the academy able to provide advice and guidance on how the virus could impact my child who has asthma or another pre-existing medical condition?**

Unfortunately, we are unable to offer any medical advice. Each individual child will need to seek medical advice by calling NHS 111 or seek guidance from a medical professional. Parents should be aware advice given to one child may differ to another child with the same medical condition. **We have provided links to the Government guidance at the bottom of this FAQs.**

- **Is there any guidance on handwashing that I can teach my child at home?**

Yes, the DfE have provided a useful poster which is available on the following link:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/869250/Coronavirus\\_advice\\_for\\_educational\\_settings\\_poster.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/869250/Coronavirus_advice_for_educational_settings_poster.pdf)

The NHS have also produced a useful hand washing video, which is available at the following link:  
<https://www.nhs.uk/Video/Pages/how-to-wash-hands.aspx>

## **Good hand and respiratory hygiene include:**

### Coughing and Sneezing

- Encourage your children to sneeze into a tissue
- Dispose of dirty tissues in the bin and
- Wash their hands with soap and water thoroughly

### Hand Hygiene

- Wash hands with soap and water or a hand sanitiser if soap and water are not available
  - Wash hands with soap and water before cooking and eating
  - Wash hands with soap and water or use a hand sanitiser on arrival to school
  - Wash hands with soap and water or use a hand sanitiser after using the toilet
  - Wash hands with soap and water or use a hand sanitiser before leaving school
- **What is the school doing to maintain high levels of hygiene?**  
All academies have reviewed and increased their hygiene regimes with their cleaning contractors and schools are briefing all students on good hygiene.

### **Other useful guidance:**

- PHE Guidance on Staying at Home has now been issued and supersedes guidance relating to specified countries and areas with implications for returning travellers or visitors arriving in the UK <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>
- GOV UK – Latest information and advice COVID 19 <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public#number-of-cases>
- NHS Common Questions FAQ's <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/common-questions/>