

# William Martin CofE Schools and Nursery

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*Experiencing life in all its fullness*

## **Covid-19 related pupil absence**

*A quick reference guide for parents and staff (September 2020)*

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents,

During the Autumn Term, children naturally catch colds, get coughs or temperatures. It is therefore understandable that parents are concerned that any illness could be Corona Virus related.

We have had a number of phone calls from parents who are concerned about whether to send their child into school, and if they are unwell whether to book a COVID-19 test.

If your child is unwell for any reason, they should not be in school. They will not enjoy being here and may give their illness to other children; therefore the best place for them is at home.

Symptoms for COVID-19 are:

- A high temperature
- A continuous cough
- Loss of taste or smell

If your child has a temperature of at least 37.6 C, for any period of time however short, they must not return to school until they have had a COVID-19 test and it is negative or they isolate for 10 days. The school reserves the right to ask to see evidence of a negative test before a child is re-admitted back to school.

If a child has cold symptoms, such as a runny nose or a cough (not continuous), but no temperature, they will be allowed back to school once they are well, the school may ask to check your child's temperature before they are re-admitted.

If your child has sickness or diarrhea, they must be off school for 48 hours after the last symptom.

The attached table gives parents more FAQs:



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What to do if...	Action Needed	Return to school when...
<p>...my child has Covid-19 symptoms,  <b>Main symptom:</b>  <b>- Temperature of at least 37.6 for any length time.</b>            May also have:            -continuous cough            -loss of taste and smell</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Do not come to school</b></li> <li>- <b>Contact school to inform us</b></li> <li>- <b><u>Self-isolate the whole household</u></b></li> <li>- <b><u>Get a test</u></b></li> <li>- <b>Inform the school immediately about the test result</b></li> </ul>	<p>...the test comes back negative <b>or</b> a period of 10 days has passed since the symptoms started, and the child feels well.</p>
<p>...my child tests positive for Covid-19.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Do not come to school.</b></li> <li>- <b>Contact school to inform us either by phone or evenings or weekends email: <a href="mailto:head.harlow@dcvst.org">head.harlow@dcvst.org</a></b></li> <li>- <b>Agree an earliest date for possible return (minimum of 10 days).</b></li> <li>- <b><u>Self-isolate the whole household.</u></b></li> </ul>	<p>...14 days have passed since symptoms began, even if they still have a cough or loss of taste/smell. <i>(These symptoms can last for several weeks.)</i>  <b>AND</b> the child feels well.</p>
<p>...my child tests negative.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Contact school to inform us.</b></li> <li>- Discuss when your child can come back (same day/next day).</li> </ul>	<p>...the test comes back negative.</p>
<p>...my child is ill with symptoms not linked to Covid-19.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Do not come to school.</b></li> <li>- <b>Contact school to inform us.</b></li> <li>- Ring on each day of illness.</li> </ul>	<p>...after 48 hours following the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea (as per attendance policy)</p>
<p>...someone in my household has Covid-19 symptoms.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Do not come to school.</b></li> <li>- <b>Contact school to inform us.</b></li> <li>- Self-isolate the whole household.</li> <li>- Household member to get a test.</li> <li>- <b>Inform school immediately about test result.</b></li> </ul>	<p>...the test comes back negative.</p>
<p>...someone in my household tests positive for Covid-19.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Do not come to school.</b></li> <li>- <b>Contact school to inform us.</b></li> <li>- <b>Agree an earliest date for possible return (minimum of 14 days).</b></li> <li>- Self-isolate the whole household.</li> </ul>	<p>...the child has completed 14 days of isolation.</p>
<p>...NHS test and trace has identified my child as a close contact of somebody with symptoms or confirmed Covid-19.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Do not come to school.</b></li> <li>- <b>Contact school to inform us.</b></li> <li>- <b>Agree an earliest date for possible return (minimum of 14 days).</b></li> </ul>	<p>...the child has completed 14 days of isolation.</p>
<p>...NHS test and trace has identified a household member (other than my child) as a close contact of somebody with symptoms or confirmed Covid-19.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>The household member must self-isolate for 14 days.</b></li> <li>- Child can continue to attend school.</li> </ul>	<p>...child can continue to attend school</p>
<p>... a sibling attending another school has been sent home to self-isolate due to their being a positive case in their school.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Sibling must self-isolate for 14 days.</b></li> <li>- William Martin child(ren) can continue to attend.</li> </ul>	<p>...child can continue to attend school</p>



... my child has travelled abroad from a country or territory that is NOT on the exempt list of countries.	<p><b>If returning from a destination where quarantine is needed*:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- minimum of 14 days self-isolation for all those who travelled.</li> <li>- contact school to inform us you are back in the country and we will agree an earliest date for possible return to school.</li> <li>- Self-isolate the whole household.</li> </ul> <p><u><a href="#">*Foreign, Commonwealth &amp; Development Office (FCDO)</a></u> – for up to date travel information</p>	...the quarantine period of 14 days has been completed.
... my child has travelled abroad from a country or territory that IS on the exempt list of countries.	<p><b>If returning from a destination where quarantine is NOT needed:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Check the current <u><a href="#">Exempt countries and territories list</a></u> to confirm the country you have travelled from or through is on the exempt list.</li> <li>- Ring school to inform us you have returned to the UK and agree a return date to school.</li> </ul>	... you have informed the office of your return to the UK ( <i>the office will ask you a few questions about your travel</i> ).
...I have travelled from a country that requires us to quarantine (but my child didn't travel).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- As long as you do not have / have not had symptoms in the last 14 days, your child can continue to attend school.</li> <li>- The person who has travelled MUST NOT leave the house, including to do pick-ups and drop offs (<i>please contact school if you need support getting your child to school</i>).</li> </ul>	...child can continue to attend school
...we have received medical advice that my child must resume shielding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Do not come to school.</b></li> <li>- <b>Contact school to inform us.</b></li> <li>- Shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again.</li> </ul>	<p>...school inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school again.</p> <p>...you receive medical advice that your child may return to school.</p>
...my child's bubble is closed due to a Covid-19 outbreak in school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Child must not come to school.</b></li> <li>- Support your child at home with remote education provided by your school.</li> <li>- Your child will need to self-isolate for 14 days.</li> <li>- <b>Other siblings may continue to attend school.</b></li> </ul>	...school inform you that the bubble will be reopened.
... I am unable to get a test for someone in the household who has symptoms	<p><b><i>If you are not able to get a test in the first 5 days of having symptoms, your child and anyone they live with must stay at home and self-isolate for 14 days. Anyone in your support bubble must also stay at home.</i></b></p>	...the child has completed 14 days of isolation.

If you are still worried, feel free to ring the office on 01279 424122 and speak to Mrs Hogg or Miss Bridges, or email [admin@williammartin-inf.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@williammartin-inf.essex.sch.uk).

Very best wishes,

Gina Bailey  
Executive Headteacher





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