

### SEFTON COUNCIL - COVID-19

# What happens if there is a potential case of Coronavirus (COVID-19) in an educational setting?



Symptomatic staff and pupils must not come into the educational setting. They must follow 'stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus infection.' They should self-isolate for at least 10 days from when symptoms start and should arrange to have a test to see if they have COVID-19. Other members of their household (including any siblings) should self-isolate for 14 days from when symptoms began in the suspected case

Tests can be booked at https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or by telephone (NHS 119) for those with no internet access.

**POSITIVE RESULT** 

PHE will also contact educational settings directly if someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 attended the school – as identified by NHS Test and Trace.

If the staff or pupil tests positive the individual must **continue to self-isolate for at least 10 days** from the onset of their symptoms and then return to school only if they do not have symptoms other than cough or loss of sense of smell/taste. If they still have a high temperature, they should **keep self-isolating until their temperature returns to normal. Other members of their household should continue self-isolating for the 14 days.** 

If the individual who tested positive does not have any symptoms, they should **self-isolate for 10 days from the day of the test**. If they develop symptoms during the isolation period, they **should restart the 10-day isolation period from the day of developing the symptoms**. If they test negative, feels well and no longer has symptoms they can return to their educational setting and stop self-isolating. Other members of their household (including siblings) can stop selfisolating too.

**NEGATIVE RESULT** 

Educational settings should not request evidence of negative results before allowing pupils or staff back

Educational settings must not share details of people with COVID-19 unless essential to protect others.

Additional educational setting actions are required if someone who has attended has tested positive:

- The rest of their class or group within their educational setting should go home to self-isolate for 14 days. The other household members of that wider class or group do not need to self-isolate unless the staff or pupil they live with develops symptoms.
- Contact the Public Health England Health Protection Team (PHE) on 0344 225 0562 option 0. PHE will be able to provide advice, including providing communication templates for parents and carers.
- Notify Tricia.Davies@sefton.gov.uk or via admin at Sue.Pooley@sefton.gov.uk / Joe.Flatman@sefton.gov.uk
  - Log on the Sefton Council incident report system or email **HealthandSafety@sefton.gov.uk**

What if there is another potential case of



## Coronavirus in the setting?

If someone in a class or group that has been asked to self-isolate develops symptoms themselves within their 14-day isolation period they should **follow 'stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus infection'.** They should **arrange to have a test**. Members of their household (including siblings) should self-isolate too.

### **POSITIVE RESULT**

If the test result is positive, they **should inform their educational 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 (including siblings) should self-isolate for at least 14 days from when the symptomatic person first symptoms had, following 'stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection'

If educational settings have two or more confirmed cases within 14 days, or an overall rise in sickness absence where COVID-19 is suspected, they may have an outbreak, and must **continue to work with PHE** who will be able to advise if additional action is required.

PHE may recommend that a larger number of other pupils self-isolate at home as a precautionary measure. Where an outbreak in a school is confirmed, a mobile testing unit may be dispatched to test others who may have been in contact with the person who has tested positive. Testing will first focus on the person's class, followed by their year group, then the whole school if necessary, in line with routine public health outbreak control practice.

#### **NEGATIVE RESULT**

If the test delivers a negative result, they must remain in isolation for the remainder of the 14day isolation period. This is because they could still develop the COVID-19 within the remaining days.