

## Covid 19 - FAQ Information for parents

We appreciate how difficult and complex some of the arrangements are, that are in place due to the Coronavirus situation.

For this reason we have produced a help sheet that sets out some responses to some of the common questions regarding Coronavirus.

All the answers we have set out are based on the **Public Health advice** that all schools are following.

1. My child has a cold and a runny nose, can they come to school?

Yes - It's fine to send your child to school with a [cold](#).

2. My child has a cough, can they come to school?

Yes - It's fine to send your child to school with a minor [cough](#).

3. My child has a persistent cough / temperature (37.8°C or above) / loss of taste or smell, can they come to school?

No - if your child has any of these symptoms they should stay at home:

- Book a Coronavirus test [arrange to have a test](#)
- Please ring (01525 402735) or email school ([office@firslower.org](mailto:office@firslower.org)) to let us know
- If you are concerned about your child phone NHS 111 or access it online [NHS 111](#). Dial 999 in an emergency.

4. What is a 'persistent cough'?

The definition given by the NHS is – 'coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)'.

For questions 1-4 see our '*Should I Send My Child To School?*' flowchart by downloading it from our Coronavirus web page (under the Parents tab) [Coronavirus web page](#)

5. Should I be using hand sanitiser before I change my child's reading book at the changing book station outside the school?

**Please, please do!** We need **every** parent/carer to do it, so we are all working together to keep everyone safe.

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6. Should I change my child's reading book at the changing book station, after I drop them off?  
Yes please, drop them off first, then visit the reading book station, so that you are not going the wrong way in our one way system.
7. If one of my children has any of the key [Coronavirus symptoms](#), what should I do?
- Keep your child(ren) at home
  - Arrange a coronavirus test
  - All your household should self isolate until you get the test result
  - If it is negative, your children can come back to school
  - If it is positive, they will need to self isolate for 10 days.
  - You and anyone else in your household will need to self isolate for 14 days.  
See Government [stay at home: guidance](#)
8. I do not understand what the difference is between the 10 and 14 day isolation periods.
- If you have a positive test result, so you have coronavirus you will be asked to isolate for 10 days. This is because Public Health advice indicates that this is how long the virus takes to pass through your system.
  - Everyone else who may have come into contact with you, such as people in your household, will be asked to isolate for 14 days to safely allow enough time to see whether they will develop the virus and also have time for it to pass through their system.
  - If during a 14 day isolation, a member of your household develops coronavirus symptoms they should get a test and if it is positive they will need to isolate for 10 days from the onset of their symptoms. (See link above)
9. If my child is waiting for or has had a test and we are waiting for the results, can they and/or their siblings still come to school?  
**No - you must begin to self isolate while waiting for your test result - see no 7**
10. If one of my children has a positive test result, do my other children have to self isolate as well?  
Yes - they will have to self isolate for 14 days - see no 7 and no 8 above.
11. If my child is self isolating because their 'bubble' has been asked to self isolate for 14 days (**not** because they have a positive test result) can their siblings in other year groups / classes still go to school?  
Yes - only siblings in a household where someone has had a positive test result need to self isolate.

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12. If my child is self isolating because their 'bubble' has been asked to self isolate for 14 days (**not** because they have a positive test result) can I bring them with me to drop off their siblings in other year groups / classes?  
**No - public health advice we have received, indicates that they should be kept at home. They must not come onto the school site, even if they seem well. This is awkward for parents we realise, but essential to limit the risk of infection and ensure we are working together to keep everyone safe.**
13. If I am giving a lift to some children (from more than 1 household) to bring them to school, can my child who is self isolating be with them in the car?  
**No, public health advice is that this is breaking the self isolation and risking spreading Coronavirus. (Remember, someone can be asymptomatic but still infectious).**
14. If my child is self isolating because their 'bubble' has been asked to self isolate for 14 days (**not** because they have a positive test result) can they sleepover at another child's house?  
**No - again, public health advice is that self isolation means self isolation and the child / children should remain in their own household or 'support bubble' if they move between two households, as part of their normal routine.**
15. If my child is self isolating because their 'bubble' has been asked to self isolate for 14 days (**not** because they have a positive test result) and they have a negative test result during this period, can they return to school before the original 14 days is up?  
**No - they will have to continue to self isolate for the full 14 day period. This is explained below:**
- A '**close contact**' of a positive case is required to self-isolate for 14 days from the onset of symptoms, or from the date of test if the positive case was asymptomatic.
  - The reason for the 14 days period is that this is the incubation period following contact with a positive case – i.e. **the virus could emerge at any point during those 14 days.**
  - If a close contact takes a test at any point during those 14 days, and the test is negative, all that confirms is that the person tested negative **at that point.** They could still be incubating the virus (because they were in close contact with a confirmed positive case), but it just hasn't emerged yet.