



*Happiness and wonder inspires success*

**Wednesday June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2020**

**Latest update from DfE regarding Coronavirus: Children displaying symptoms.**

Experts think that MIS-C is likely a reaction of the body to either a current or past COVID-19 infection – but there is much we don't understand, including why some children with MIS-C have negative tests for COVID-19.

**What are the symptoms of the new inflammatory syndrome known as MIS-C?**

Symptoms of MIS-C vary from case to case, but can include

- prolonged fever (more than a couple of days)
- rash
- conjunctivitis (redness of the white part of the eye)
- stomach ache
- vomiting and/or diarrhea
- a large, swollen lymph node in the neck
- red, cracked lips
- a tongue that is redder than usual and looks like a strawberry
- swollen hands and/or feet
- irritability and/or unusual sleepiness or weakness.

If a child displays any of the above symptoms, they will be isolated immediately to a prepared quarantine room and parents will be expected to collect them as soon as possible. An adult from their Bubble will remain with them until they are collected. We expect parents to contact 119 to arrange for their child to be tested. The child needs to remain at home until the results of the test are confirmed. After receiving the results, the parent/carer needs to contact the school and inform them of the outcomes of the test. If the test is negative, the child can return to school.

**Department for Education Guidance**

**What happens if there is a confirmed case of coronavirus (COVID-19) in a setting?**

When a child, young person or staff member develops symptoms compatible with coronavirus (COVID-19), they should be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 7 days and arrange to have a test to see if they have COVID-19. They can do this by visiting [NHS.UK](https://www.nhs.uk) to arrange or contact NHS 119 via telephone if they do not have internet access. Their fellow household members should self-isolate for 14 days. All staff and students who are attending an education or childcare setting will have access to a test if they display symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), and are encouraged to get tested in this scenario.

Where the child, young person or staff member tests negative, they can return to their setting and the fellow household members can end their self-isolation.

Where the child, young person or staff member tests positive, the rest of their class or group within their childcare or education setting should be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days. The other household members of that wider class or group do not need to self-isolate unless the child, young person or staff member they live with in that group subsequently develops symptoms.

If a member of staff has helped someone with symptoms, they do not need to go home unless they develop symptoms themselves (and in which case, a test is available) or the child subsequently tests positive (see 'What happens if there is a confirmed case of coronavirus (COVID-19) in a setting?' below). They should wash their hands thoroughly for 20 seconds after any contact with someone who is unwell. Cleaning the affected area with normal household disinfectant after someone with symptoms has left will reduce the risk of passing the infection on to other people.

As part of the national test and trace programme, if other cases are detected within the cohort or in the wider setting, Public Health England's local health protection teams will conduct a rapid investigation and will advise schools and other settings on the most appropriate action to take. In some cases a larger number of other children, young people may be asked to self-isolate at home as a precautionary measure - perhaps the whole class, site or year group. Where settings are observing guidance on infection prevention and control, which will reduce risk of transmission, closure of the whole setting will not generally be necessary.