









COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) ABSENCE: A quick guide for parents/carers

Keep.
Wirral.
Well.

What to do if...	Action needed	Return to school when...
 <p>...my child has coronavirus symptoms</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Do not come to school ✓ Contact school ✓ Self-isolate ✓ Get a test ✓ Inform school immediately about test result 	<p>...the test comes back negative</p>
 <p>...my child tests positive for coronavirus</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Do not come to school ✓ Self-isolate for at least 10 days ✓ Inform school immediately about test result 	<p>...they feel better. They can return to school after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of smell/taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks once the infection is gone.</p>
 <p>...somebody in my household has coronavirus symptoms</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Do not come to school ✓ Contact school ✓ Self-isolate ✓ Household member to get a test ✓ Inform school immediately about test result 	<p>...the household member test is negative</p>
 <p>...somebody in my household has tested positive for coronavirus</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Do not come to school ✓ Contact school ✓ Self-isolate for 14 days 	<p>...the child has completed 14 days of self-isolation</p>
 <p>...NHS test and trace have identified my child as a 'close contact' of somebody with symptoms or confirmed coronavirus</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Do not come to school ✗ Contact school ✗ Self-isolate for 14 days 	<p>...the child has completed 14 days of self-isolation</p>
 <p>...we/my child travelled and has to self-isolate as part of a period of quarantine</p>	<p>Term time holidays, including absence as a result of needing to quarantine, are unauthorised.</p> <p>Returning from a destination where quarantine is needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Do not come to school ✓ Contact school ✓ Self-isolate for 14 days - even if a test is negative 	<p>...the quarantine period of 14 days has been completed</p>
 <p>...we have received medical advice that my child must resume shielding</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Do not come to school ✓ Contact school ✓ Shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again 	<p>...school inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school again</p>
 <p>...I am not sure who should get a test for COVID -19 (coronavirus)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Only people with symptoms* need to get a test ✓ People without symptoms are not advised to get a test, even if they are a 'close contact' of someone who tests positive 	<p>...when conditions above, as matching your situation, are met</p>

* Symptoms include at least one of a high temperature; a new continuous cough; a loss of or change to your sense of smell or taste.



Julie Webster
Director of Public Health

To

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Public Health
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Date: 17 September 2020

Your Ref:
Our Ref: JW/JH/kms
Service: Public Health

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to all schools in Wirral today to ask that parents and carers take extra care as Wirral's coronavirus cases continue to rise. The number of people with coronavirus has increased dramatically since the end of August and remains high.

We are seeing more people from all age groups testing positive across all areas of Wirral. This is why we have taken the decision to write to **ask that all parents and carers in Wirral wear face coverings when collecting and dropping off their children at school. This will apply from Monday 21st September.**

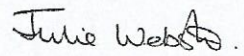
I would also ask you to please take note of the following points:

- Whilst certain individuals are exempt from wearing face coverings (for example those with particular medical conditions), they will still be expected to maintain social distance. Wearing a face covering does not replace the need for social distancing.
- We are asking you as parents and carers to wear a face covering at school pick-up/drop-off points, but your children will only be expected to wear face coverings indoors in communal areas of secondary schools. The focus on adults is due to the unavoidable congestion that is happening at some school pick-up/drop-off points and the higher risk of COVID19 transmission from adult to adult, which is not replicated amongst children.
- As part of the increased measures for schools, members of school staff who oversee drop-off and collection times will also be required to wear a face covering.

- Further detail about face covering use in schools can be found at:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-in-education>

I appreciate your support with these protective measures.
We must all do our bit and keep Wirral Well.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julie Webster". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small flourish at the end.

Julie Webster
Director of Public Health