

Covid-19 - Schools and Settings in North Lincolnshire

What do I need to do?

7th January 2022

If you have a general enquiry about guidance for COVID-19 in educational settings please call or email the DfE helpline.

0800 046 8687 - lines open 8am to 6pm Mon to Fri, and 10am to 4pm weekends or email DfE.CoronavirusHelpline@education.gov.uk
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/guidance-for-schools-coronavirus-covid-19>
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/early-years-and-childcare-coronavirus-covid-19>

Pupil or staff with symptoms of Covid 19

ALL SETTINGS

- child/staff member with symptoms (suspected case) should follow the guidelines
- [Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

You do NOT need to notify us of suspected cases or close contacts until they are a confirmed case

- For other COVID-19 queries related to your setting, contact DfE helpline **0800 046 8687**

No further action until LFD test result or PCR (if symptomatic)

LFD/PCR Positive result

ALL SETTINGS

Child/staff member with a confirmed LFD/PCR positive test result. Please notify North Lincolnshire Council <http://s.northlincs.gov.uk/COVID19-education>

EARLY YEARS also:

- Notify OfSTED: [Tell Ofsted if you have a COVID-19 incident at your childcare business - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) of a LFD/ PCR confirmed Covid case in a **child/staff member**
- **If someone has symptoms they should have a PCR**

Cluster of Covid 19 positive identified in a group of close proximity*

ALL SETTINGS

If you see a cluster of confirmed cases of close contact, consider taking action to mitigate the spread. Refer to your risk management plan to mitigate the risk of further spread in school. *(See next page for suggested mitigations)*

DEFINITIONS OF A CLUSTER OF CLOSE CONTACT:

1. Five children or staff, who are likely to have mixed closely, test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period;
2. 10% of children or staff who are likely to have mixed closely test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period

SPECIAL SCHOOLS and SMALL SETTINGS (20 or fewer children, pupils, students and staff at any one time)

3. Two children or staff, who are likely to have mixed closely, test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period

Please continue to report your positive cases.

The Public Health Team at North Lincs will contact you to offer support if your cases are rising rapidly in a cluster.

WHEN TO SEEK FURTHER ADVICE

ALL SETTINGS

Seek public health advice if a child or staff member is admitted to hospital with COVID-19 by phoning the DfE helpline - (0800 046 8687, option 1). Please also notify Public Health, North Lincolnshire Council contacttracing@northlincs.gov.uk

If you have identified risks that you cannot mitigate and need further support, contact School IPC Nurse rdash.nlschoolnurseshealthinformation@nhs.net

If you urgently need Public Health advice outside of office hours and need, please contact the UKHSA Health Protection Team: 0151 909 1219

Setting	Covid measures Education Settings	Update 7 th Jan 2021	Measures to mitigate spread of covid
	Face Coverings		Testing
Pre-school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Face coverings should be worn by staff and adults (including visitors) when moving around in corridors and communal areas 		Home test kits to test at home before their return
Primary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Face coverings should be worn by staff and adults (including visitors) when moving around in corridors and communal areas. Health advice continues to be that children in primary schools should not be asked to wear face coverings. <p>In North Lincolnshire we do not require any child who is in primary school, year 6 and below to wear a face covering.</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak</p>		
Secondary (year 7 and above)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Face coverings should be worn by pupils, staff and adult visitors when moving around the premises, outside of classrooms, such as in corridors and communal areas. Pupils in these schools must also wear a face covering when travelling on public transport and should wear it on dedicated transport to and from school. Face coverings do not need to be worn when outdoors. This does not apply in situations where wearing a face covering would impact on the ability to take part in exercise or strenuous activity, for example in PE lessons. This will be a temporary measure. DfE would not ordinarily expect teachers to wear a face covering in the classroom if they are at the front of the class, to support education delivery, although settings should be sensitive to the needs of individual teachers. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One LFD test onsite at the beginning of term. Pupils encouraged to test at home 3-4 days after this initial test; then test regularly twice weekly at home.

Isolation and release	Individuals who have left self-isolation on day 7 following two negative LFD results are advised to wait until they have completed the full 10-day period before participating in routine LFD testing. This applies to all staff and eligible students participating in mass testing on return.
Positives	<p>All individuals who receive a positive result on the LFD test should self-isolate and follow national guidance. The national guidance for confirmatory PCR is under review and schools should continue to follow published guidance</p> <p>as LFD tests correlate with infectiousness, they are unlikely to pose a problem if used within the 90-day period after an individual has recovered from an infection</p>
Guidance links	<p>Face coverings: when to wear one, exemptions, and how to make your own - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</p> <p>Schools COVID-19 operational guidance (publishing.service.gov.uk)</p> <p>As the prevalence of covid is so high locally the reliability of LFD test to show a positive when there is covid present increases on a population level.</p>
Contacts	<p>From 14 December 2021, adults who are fully vaccinated and all children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 are strongly advised to take a LFD test every day for 7 days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result.</p> <p>Daily testing of close contacts applies to all contacts who are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fully vaccinated adults – people who have had 2 doses of an approved vaccine • all children and young people aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, regardless of their vaccination status • people who are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons • people taking part, or have taken part, in an approved clinical trial for a COVID-19 vaccine <p>Children under 5 years are exempt from self-isolation and do not need to take part in daily testing of close contacts.</p> <p>Pupils with SEND identified as close contacts should be supported by their school and their families to agree the most appropriate route for testing including, where appropriate, additional support to assist swabbing.</p> <p>For further information please see SEND guidance. Further information is available in NHS Test and Trace: what to do if you are contacted and in the stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection</p>
Staff covid positive/ contacts	<p>Health and social care workers, including those working in education settings, should continue to follow guidance for their sector on taking LFD tests on day 8, 9 and 10. For more information, visit COVID-19: management of staff and exposed patients or residents in health and social care settings.</p> <p>Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.</p> <p>Further information, including examples of when to end self-isolation if you have had COVID-19 symptoms, is available in the stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection.</p>

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Suspension of requirement to take PCR test for non symptomatic people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comes into place from 11th January in England, this is intended as a temporary measure only. • People who have symptoms of Covid 19 should still isolate and take a PCR test • People who do not have symptoms, but who receive a positive LFD test result are not required to take a confirmatory test result and will be required to self isolate immediately. The isolation period commencing from the date of the positive test. • Positive LFD test results must be reported so that recipients can be contacted by NHS Test and Trace so that their contacts can be traced. Report a COVID-19 rapid lateral flow test result - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) • Anyone who tests positive will be able to leave self-isolation 7 days after the date of their initial positive test if they receive 2 negative LFD results, 24 hours apart, taken not before days 6 and 7. Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) <p>There are a few exceptions to this revised approach.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. People who are eligible for the Test and Trace Support Payment will be asked to take a confirmatory PCR if they receive a positive LFD result. 2. People participating in research or surveillance programmes may still be asked to take a follow-up PCR test. 3. People who are at particular risk of becoming seriously ill from COVID-19 and have been identified by the NHS as being potentially eligible for new treatments will be receiving a PCR test kit at home by mid-January to use if they develop symptoms or if they get a positive LFD result. <p>Analysis by NHS Test and Trace shows that when LFD are used in the community for every 10,000 lateral flow tests carried out, there are likely to be fewer than 3 false positive results. LFD tests identify the most infectious people. These people tend to spread the virus to many people and so identifying them remains important.</p>