



COVID-19 Actions – a guide to reporting absence and self-isolation

Anyone with Covid-19 symptoms or a positive test result should stay at home and self-isolate immediately.

All adults who are fully vaccinated and children under 18, identified as a contact of someone with Covid 19, should take a lateral flow device test every day for 7 days instead of self-isolating. Contact tracing is the responsibility of the NHS Test and Trace; it is very important that test results are recorded with them so contact tracing can take place. Unvaccinated adults (over 18 years) will still need to isolate.

Positive individuals can end isolation early from day 7 if they return two negative LFD test results within 24 hours, no longer have a temperature and generally feel well.

Reporting absence, attendance issues and test results

Twice weekly lateral flow test results should be reported to [Rapid Testing Results](#)

A positive test result must also be notified immediately to covid19@thomastallis.org.uk. This is the address to use for Out of Hours.

Years 7-11 – attendance@thomastallis.org.uk or telephone 0208 856 0115 selecting option 1.

Post 16 – abell@thomastallis.org.uk or telephone 0208 856 0115 selecting option 2.

Could it be Covid-19?

There are many similarities between Covid-19, seasonal flu and the common cold and we appreciate that making the decision as a parent is increasingly difficult in these uncertain times. As a parent you know your child best and how they are when they are “normally” unwell, so we ask that you use your judgement and knowledge of your own child when making the decision to send them into school.

We are encouraging everyone to attend school as we are increasingly concerned about the lost learning that we have experienced, so if you are confident that it is no more than a standard cold, (that you would not normally keep your child off for), then please do send them in.

Both COVID-19 and flu can have varying degrees of signs and symptoms, ranging from no symptoms (asymptomatic) to severe symptoms.

Covid19 symptoms:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back
- a new, continuous cough – this means 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)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you’ve noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Cold symptoms: Your child may come to school and will not be sent home with: one of the following:

- a blocked or runny nose
- a sore throat
- headache

What to do if	Action Needed	Return to school when
.. my child has Covid-19 symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not send student to school 	.. PCR is negative and child feels well

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrange for a confirmatory PCR test • Report student absence as Covid 19 symptoms to attendance – we will automatically record a 10- day absence for the student. Please inform us of the date symptoms started. • Household members who are fully vaccinated or who are under 18 years will not need to isolate, but should do a LFD test every day for 7 days. 	
.. my child tests positive for Covid-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not send student to school • Inform attendance • Student must isolate for 10 days from date of positive test, or onset of symptoms. • Household members who are not fully vaccinated or who are over 18 years must isolate for 10 days from date of test/symptoms • All other household members do not need to isolate, but should do a daily LFD test for 7 days 	<p>...10 days have passed since symptoms began or positive result, even if they still have a cough or loss of taste/smell (as these can be ongoing) and the student feels well.</p> <p>..after 7 days isolation if two LFD tests taken 24 hours apart are negative</p>
.. my child test negative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact school to inform us • Agree return to school day (same/next day) 	<p>.. the PCR or lateral flow test come back negative and we have been informed (if your child tests negative via a lateral flow test but is displaying Covid 19 symptoms they still must isolate)</p>
.. my child is ill with symptoms not linked to Covid-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report student absence to attendance detailing symptoms. 	<p>.. 48 hours after last bout of sickness/diarrhoea Other illnesses – when child feels better or when advised by GP</p>
.. someone in my household has Covid-19 symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students under the age of 18 years can attend school as normal, but should do daily LFD tests for 7 days • Any student who is not exempt from isolating will need to isolate for 10 days from date of onset of symptoms. Please inform attendance. 	<p>.. after 10 days of isolation so long as the student is not displaying any Covid-19 symptoms</p>
.. someone in my household tests positive for Covid-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students under the age of 18 years can attend school as normal, but should do daily LFD tests for 7 days • Any student who is not exempt from isolating will need to isolate for 10 days from date of onset of symptoms. Please inform attendance. 	<p>.. after 10 days of isolation so long as the student is not displaying any Covid-19 symptoms</p>
.. NHS test and trace has identified a member of the household as a close contact of somebody with symptoms or confirmed Covid-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student can continue coming to school • The household member must self-isolate for 10 days unless they are double vaccinated, or under 18 years, in which case they do not need to isolate but can do daily LFD tests for 7 days 	

..my child has returned from abroad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed guidance is available here • If your child needs to isolate, please contact attendance 	
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Isolation Rules at a glance

For student's own symptoms	10 days from onset of symptoms
For student's positive test	10 days from date positive test was taken or from onset of symptoms, whichever is earlier
For household member's symptoms or positive test	For those who need to isolate, 10 days from onset of symptoms, or from date positive test was taken
For student's contact's symptoms or positive test	For those who need to isolate, 10 days from last contact, or from date of positive test was taken

Anyone who needs to isolate due to being contact must complete the whole of the isolation, irrespective of getting a negative test for themselves.

The vast majority of students will no longer need to self-isolate if they are contacts.

VC Jan 22