

Guidance for schools regarding a child or member of staff showing symptoms of covid 19

The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- 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

With children, we appreciate that coughs and colds are quite normal. In deciding if a child's symptoms are covid 19 related, we have found that temperature can be a better indicator than a cough. We have an infrared thermometer which is available to use on request.

We would also encourage that both children and adults coming to Min y Don should take a lateral flow test, the day before the arrival of the group.

Once it is decided that a child has symptoms of Covid 19 they should isolate. Arrangements should be made for the child to go home* and a PCR test to be taken. If the results of the PCR test are negative, then the child can return to Min y Don.

The children who were sharing a room with the child should be separated from the whole group and take a lateral flow test. If all the tests are negative, then they can return to the group. If the test is positive, then the child will need to isolate and go home* and take a PCR test. The whole school group will then need to take a lateral flow test. If there is one more positive test, then the whole school group will then need to leave the Centre*.

If a staff member reports that they have symptoms of Covid 19 they should isolate, and arrangements made for them to go home* and a PCR test be taken. If the results of the PCR test are negative, then they can return to Min y Don.

All other staff members take a lateral flow test. If there is a positive result that member of staff will have to go home* and a PCR test be taken. The Head will need to make the decision whether the school stays at Min y Don, or arrangements are made for the school to go home. If the decision is to stay, the whole school will need to take a lateral flow test. If there is one more positive result the whole school group will need to leave the Centre*.

If there is another child or staff member in the following days who shows symptoms of Covid 19 then the whole group will need to leave the Centre*.

We would advise that the school brings at least enough lateral flow tests for the biggest group of children sharing a room, if not enough tests for the whole school group.

In the event that a child or staff member or the whole school group has to go home, we would advise that any compensation is sought from the insurance company the school has cover with. Any compensation from Min y Don, will only be considered once the insurance company has been contacted.

*In all cases, those who must leave the Centre, the school will need to arrange transport.