



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Please note: Absence from school under Covid-related circumstances will not count against your child.

Close Contacts

A close contact is a person who has been close to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. You can be a contact any time from 2 days before the person who tested positive developed their symptoms (or, if they did not have any symptoms, from 2 days before the date their positive test was taken), and up to 10 days after, as this is when they can pass the infection to others. A close contact can be:

- anyone who lives in the same household as another person who has COVID-19 symptoms or has tested positive for COVID-19.
- anyone who has had any of the following types of contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19:
 - face-to-face contact including being coughed on or having a face-to-face conversation within one metre
 - been within one metre for one minute or longer without face-to-face contact
 - been within 2 metres of someone for more than 15 minutes (either as a one-off contact, or added up together over one day)

A person may also be a close contact if they have travelled in the same vehicle or plane as a case.

Types of test

Lateral Flow Test (“LFD”) is the test that you can do yourself at home. They are not as accurate as PCR tests at early stages but are effective for identifying asymptomatic cases.

Polymerase Chain Reaction Test (“PCR”) is the test carried out at test centres. It is more accurate but may take time to get results back from the laboratory.

To help us keep the College as safe as possible please continue to encourage your child to complete a lateral flow test twice weekly (ideally Sunday and Wednesday evenings). These are available from College. Please contact the College if your child needs to be supplied with lateral flow tests and you have not already signed up.

For more detailed advice please visit the government website here: [Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection)

What to do if...	Action Needed	Your child cannot return to school until
...your child has coronavirus symptom(s).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your child must stay at home. They must not attend College. • You must advise the College that your child has Covid symptoms. • Your child (and all members of your household) must self-isolate. • Your child must have a PCR test within 24 hours. • You must advise the College of the results. 	<p>after your child has received a negative PCR test result <u>and</u> you have advised the College of the result, Or after your child has self-isolated for 10 days from when your child’s symptoms started. (NB - Your child must not return to College before the 10 days have elapsed unless a negative “PCR” test result has been received).</p>
...your child’s “LFD” test is positive.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your child must stay at home. They must not attend College. • You must advise the College of the test outcome as soon as possible. • You must get a PCR test for your child • You must advise the College of this result as soon as possible 	<p>after 10 days if they have not developed symptoms Or 10 days after the symptoms appear Or after your child has received a negative PCR test result <u>and</u> you have advised the College of the result</p>
...your child’s “PCR” test is positive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your child must stay at home. They must not attend College. • You must advise the College of the test outcome as soon as possible. 	<p>after 10 days (if s/he feels well enough) even if s/he still has a cough or loss of smell/taste. These symptoms can last even when the virus has gone and the person is no longer infectious. If a high temperature persists please stay away from College and seek medical advice.</p>
...somebody in your household has coronavirus symptom(s).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your child must stay at home. They must not attend College. • Your child (and all members of your household) must self-isolate. • The household member must have a PCR test within 24 hours • You must advise the College of the results. 	<p>after the household member has received a negative “PCR” test result <u>and</u> you have advised the College of the result, Or after your child has self-isolated for 10 days from when your household member’s symptoms started, unless your child becomes symptomatic – then please follow the guidance as above.</p>
...somebody in your household has tested positive for coronavirus.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your child must stay at home. They must not attend College. • Your child (and your household) must self-isolate for 10 days. 	<p>after your child has self-isolated for 10 days from when your household member’s symptoms started, unless your child becomes symptomatic – then please follow the guidance as above. Or after a negative “PCR” test follows a positive “LFD” test</p>
...NHS have identified your child as a ‘close contact’ of somebody with symptoms/confirmed coronavirus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your child must stay at home. They must not attend College. • Your child must self-isolate for 10 days. 	<p>after your child has self-isolated for 10 days, unless your child becomes symptomatic – then please follow the guidance as above</p>
...a household member has been identified as a close contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The person identified as a close contact must self-isolate for 10 days (even if they have tested negative) • Other household members may continue as normal UNLESS the contact develops coronavirus symptoms 	<p>Straight away – unless a family member has developed symptom – then please follow advice above</p>

How to Obtain Tests:

Parents/Carers can book a "PCR" test at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/> or by calling 119. This link also contains details of how to order "LFD" tests

If parents or carers are unable to book a local slot then they can email: d-ccg.cornwalldevon.urgenttesting@nhs.net for advice.

How to inform the College of the outcome of your child's Coronavirus (Covid 19) symptom(s)/test to enable your child to return to College

If your child's test is positive, please inform the College as soon as possible by phoning 01326 572685. If the result arrives over the weekend then please email absence@helston.cornwall.sch.uk and someone will ring you back.

Please confirm that your child or household member has received a negative test result by email to absence@helston.cornwall.sch.uk OR

Complete the form below and instruct your child to hand this to reception on their arrival at College.

Whilst your child is away from College, if they feel well enough to do so, they can find school work for all subjects by logging into their Google classrooms.

Childs Name:	Tutor Group:
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The earliest date your child can return to College is:

I can confirm that the above named child or household member has received a negative coronavirus test result.

Parent/Carer Signature:	Date:
Please print your full name:	