If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19 after a negative result

If your child had a negative (COVID-19 virus was not detected) test result but later goes on to develop COVID-19 symptoms, isolate your child and phone your GP.

Explain to your GP that your child was tested as a close contact of a case of COVID-19 and they have now developed symptoms of COVID-19. The GP will discuss referring your child for another free coronavirus test.

If your child develops COVID-19 symptoms, people in your household need to restrict their movements now and stay at home. This includes not attending school or work.

If your child develops symptoms of Covid-19 after a positive result

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, but has already had a positive result from their close contact test, then they do not need to be tested again. The symptoms for COVID-19 can start after the positive/'detected' test result.

You must keep your child isolated (you may need to isolate with them) and use all infection control measures possible to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the house e.g. distancing as much as physically possible, hand washing, covering your mouth and nose if you cough, keeping surfaces clean and avoiding touching your face.

People in the household need to restrict their movements and stay at home. This includes not attending school or work.

If your child's symptoms get worse

Phone your GP or GP out of hours service immediately if your child's symptoms of COVID-19 get worse.

Privacy

The school cannot share the name of the child or staff member who tested positive (COVID-19 detected). This information is private and confidential. Close contacts will not be told the name of the person with COVID-19 unless the parent or guardian of the child or member of staff gives permission.

Where do I go for more information?
Up to date information and advice on COVID-19 (coronavirus) is available on hse.ie. If you have any queries you can call HSELive on 1850 24 1850 from 8am – 8pm Monday to Friday and 10am – 5pm on Saturday. You can also contact the HSE by email on hselive@hse.ie

Useful websites

https://www.gov.ie/en/
https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/coronavirus/novelcoronavirus/
https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/coronavirus/child-close-contact-covid-19-school.html

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