



Coronavirus: Update for Parents on Partial School Closures and Remote Learning Plans



1st January 2021

Dear parents/carers,



I hope that this email and letter finds you all in good health, safe from the Covid Virus that is affecting all of our families in so many ways.

As the new Federation Headteacher for Stewart Headlam and Hague Schools, this is not the 2021 New Year start that I wanted to write to you about. 2021 was supposed to be more cheerful for all of us, however, I'm an optimist at heart and very much hope it will feel better for everyone once we get through the challenges of January.

I know you will have seen and heard the news that the government has instructed schools in Tower Hamlets to close due to the extremely high number of coronavirus cases in our area.

It means **Stewart Headlam and Hague Schools will only be open for vulnerable children and the children of critical workers, from Wednesday 6th January. All other children will need to continue their learning from home until the restrictions are lifted.**

I am sorry this is such short notice but the circumstances were, as you know beyond Primary Headteachers control. It would have been helpful if the government gave primary schools and parents more notice of the changes but be assured that staff are doing their best to react and support at such short notice. We are following the newly updated Tower Hamlets advice just circulated to school leaders.

Stewart Headlam and Hague Schools had already scheduled an INSET Day for Monday 4th January to launch the new school leadership vision and schools' priorities. There will now be an extra INSET Day on Tuesday 5th January to ensure that both schools are ready to support and deliver the next 2 weeks of home learning for those not attending and onsite provision for those who are eligible to attend.

The Government anticipates that restrictions will be lifted from 18th January. We are however, very mindful that the government is keeping the situation under review subject to secondary school virus testing programmes, vaccinations and reduction in number of Covid Cases in Tier 4 locations.

The list of occupations that fall under the "Critical Workers" category has been published by the Cabinet Office.

If you are in an occupation that falls under the "Critical Worker" category and you would like your child/ren to access provision at Hague or Stewart Headlam, we must request that you complete the online Critical Worker Registration form by Tuesday 5th Jan, 12noon. This will be emailed to all families.

Please note that due to the current situation, we require supporting documents regarding your "Critical Worker" status. Only children who have completed forms and confirmed critical worker status will be able to attend.

Children with SEND/EHCP

We totally understand that a few children with Special Educational Needs may find the change and school closure to most children a little unsettling.

We aim to support our children with SEND flexibly and with a full or part time offer to be agreed. The Inclusion Leads, Alice (Hague) and Kulsoom (Stewart Headlam) will contact parents to confirm attendance. Alternatively, you can complete the online form to support early planning.

Teachers of the Deaf at Hague will contact families by phone on Monday afternoon, to confirm attendance and Tower Hamlets transport arrangements if needed.

How to start with Remote Learning - Parents' Guide

We are very mindful of the challenges for parents and aim to make the learning as accessible as possible for all.

Whether children are at home or in school they will all be following the same learning expectations.

Tuesday 5th January:

1. **Log on** to the school websites and Google Classrooms.
2. **Read the 'Get Organised'** information
3. **Prepare to start the Remote Learning tasks from Wednesday 6th of January.**
 - **Stewart Headlam** children and families should check Google Classroom for the Remote Learning Plans.
 - **Hague** children should check the school website for their weekly learning overview. The Learning Links will be signposted there.

The class teachers in both schools will schedule Google Meet sessions for each class.

They will send further information on the 4th and 5th January to support Remote Learning.

A reminder of the definitions of 'vulnerable children' and 'critical workers'

Vulnerable children are those who:

- Have a child in need plan or child protection plan
- Are looked after by the local authority
- Have an education, health and care (EHC) plan and have been determined, following risk assessment, that their needs can be as safely or more safely met at school
- Have been assessed as otherwise vulnerable by the school or LA, including children who are:
 - Receiving support from children's social care services i.e CAHMs
 - Adopted or Looked After
 - Living in temporary accommodation
 - Young carers
 - In a hostel or temporary accommodation

Critical workers are those who work in:

- Health and social care
- Education and childcare
- Key public services (including the justice system, religious staff, charities delivering key frontline services, those responsible for the management of the deceased, and journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting)
- Local and national government who are involved in delivering the coronavirus response or essential public services
- Food and other necessary goods
- Public safety and national security
- Transport
- Utilities, communication and financial services

Please complete the survey to let us know if your family has had a change in circumstance which means you or your child are eligible for any of the above categories.

We fully understand the reasons that parents may want to keep their children safe at home during this period, we will support you to do so but will also offer safe, school based provision during this time to support families and children who are eligible and need it.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us via

admin@hague.towerhamlets.sch.uk or admin@stewartheadlam.towerhamlets.sch.uk

Thank you again for your continued support.

We'll be in touch with more information at the start of the new year.

Kind regards,

Judy Knappett

Executive Headteacher of Stewart Headlam and Hague Primary Schools.

Public Health update: COVID-19 in schools and early years settings

09 December 2020

Version 21

Please send comments and queries to
phcov19@towerhamlets.gov.uk



Introduction



- This slide-deck aims to support LBTH educational settings during the COVID-19 pandemic
- It aims to complement rather than duplicate other LBTH guidance, and should be read alongside this e.g. health and safety risk assessment template
- The majority of content seeks to summarise and link to existing government [guidance](#)
- There are additional slides to explain some of the rationale behind current guidance
- Government guidance is frequently updated so please check [gov.uk](#) regularly and sign up for alerts
- There is further detail in the Notes section below including hyperlinks to other guidance



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- [Levels of COVID-19 Infection](#)
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- [Infection prevention and control](#)
- [Managing specific issues](#)
- [Managing COVID cases in Education Settings](#)
- [COVID Testing](#)
- [Seasonal Flu](#)
- [COVID-19 Champions](#)

New

- End of term planning guidance for schools ([slide 15](#))

Updated

- Covid Case Numbers (slides 4-5)
- Tower Hamlets context including case numbers in schools (slide 6)
- Actions to take when:
 - Pupil displays Covid symptoms ([slide 34](#))
 - Household member of staff/pupil displays Covid-19 symptoms ([slide 35](#))
 - Pupil or staff member tests positive for Covid-19 ([slide 36](#))
- Seasonal Flu Update ([slide 42](#))



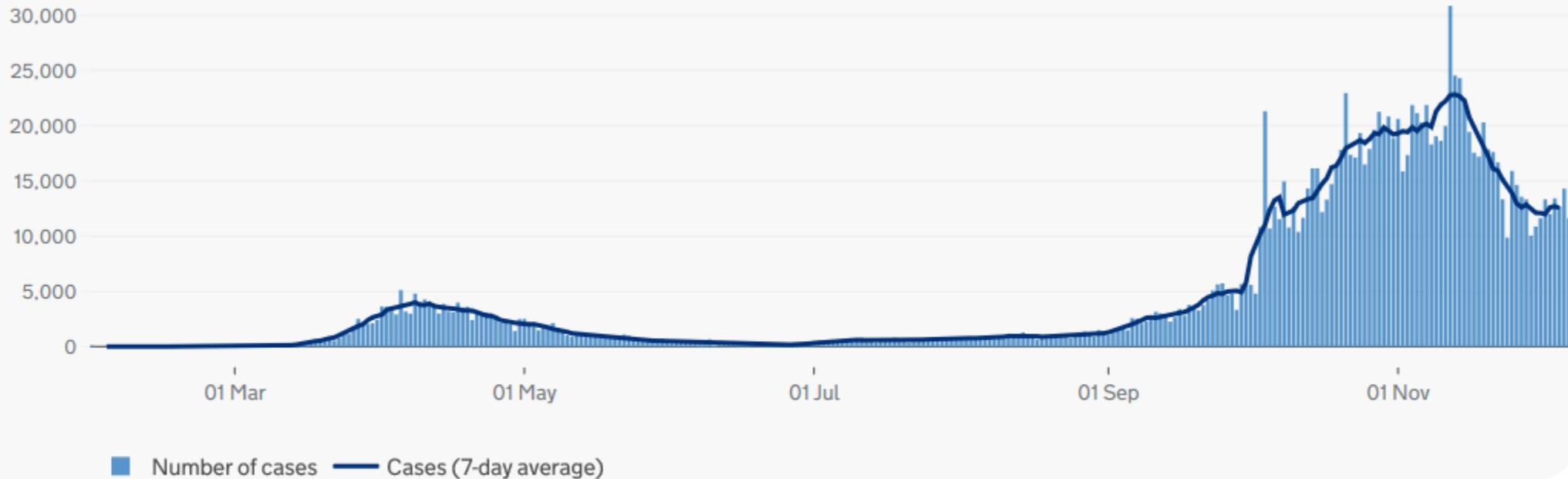
Levels of COVID-19 infection in England



Cases by date reported

Number of individuals who have had at least one positive COVID-19 test result (either lab-reported or lateral flow device), by date reported. Initially only pillar 1 tests (NHS and, in England, PHE labs) were included but commercial tests have been included from varying dates between 15th June and 14th July for each nation, leading to step increases in the numbers of cases reported at different times.

[Daily](#) [Cumulative](#) [Data](#) [About](#)



Levels of COVID-19 infection in Tower Hamlets



Cases by specimen date

Number of people with at least one positive COVID-19 test result (either lab-reported or lateral flow device), by specimen date. Individuals tested positive more than once are only counted once, on the date of their first positive test. The most recent 5 days' data, highlighted in grey, are incomplete.

Daily Cumulative Data About



■ Most recent 5 days (incomplete) ■ Number of cases — Cases (7-day average)



Current Tower Hamlets Context

- We are seeing a decline in the number of cases in Tower Hamlets.
- The latest weekly rate for Tower Hamlets was 207 cases per 100,000 residents
 - Compared to 170 cases per 100,000 across London
 - Compared to 205 cases per 100,000 in Tower Hamlets last week
- **11%** of reported tests taken by Tower Hamlets residents were positive.
 - Compared to 7.8% across London
 - Compared to 12.5% in Tower Hamlets last week

Cases in Schools

- There have been approximately **615** cases in schools in Tower Hamlets this term (as of 08/12/20)
 - Most schools have had 1-10 cases
- **Outbreaks (2 or more linked cases)**
 - Very limited child-to-child transmission
 - Most outbreaks are between staff - concerns that infection control guidance is not being followed, especially social distancing between staff.



Local Restriction Tiers



From Wednesday 2 December, a regionally-differentiated tiered approach is in effect. On Thursday 26th of November, the government announced which areas are in which tier.

Tier 1: Medium alert

Tier 2: High alert – **Tower Hamlets**

Tier 3: Very high alert

Across all tiers:

- Attendance at school & college as normal, unless self-isolating. **Schools, universities, colleges and early years settings remain open.**
- [Rules on meeting others safely](#) apply.
- Where possible, **work from home**. School staff should continue to go into work, where necessary.
- Walk or cycle where possible and avoid busy times and routes when travelling.
- Wear a face covering in most indoor public settings, unless exempt.



Local Restriction Tiers: General Information



Tiers	Social Groups	Places of Worship	Hospitality Venues
1: Medium 'Rule of 6'	No socialising in groups larger than 6, indoors or outdoors	Open - no attending or socialising in groups larger than 6	Open - table service only. Closed 11pm-5am.
2: High	No indoor socialising with anyone you do not live with or who is not in support bubble Outdoor socialising: Rule of 6	Open - no indoor socialising with people outside of household	Restaurants open - table service only - 11pm close. Pubs and bars closed, unless operating as restaurant.
3: Very High	No socialising indoors and in most outdoor settings with people not in household and not in support bubble [Rule of 6 for parks, beaches, and sports facilities]	Open - no socialising with anyone outside of household	Takeaway & delivery services only Accommodation venues closed

Exemptions apply to all and are available to see [here](#).



Education in Tower Hamlets under Tier 2



- Education and childcare settings remain open
- **All pupils should continue to attend school and colleges**, unless required to self-isolate, when their school and college should provide them with high quality remote education.
- **Public-sector employees working in essential services, including education settings, should continue to go into work where necessary.**
- Gatherings for work purposes are only allowed where they are reasonably necessary. If meetings take place in the workplace, workplaces should be set up to meet the COVID-19-secure guidelines. Meals to socialise with work colleagues are not permitted.
- In schools and colleges where year 7 and above are educated, **face coverings** should be worn by adults (staff and visitors) and pupils when moving around indoors, such as in corridors and communal areas where social distancing is difficult to maintain.



Clinical Extremely Vulnerable (CEV)



General principles which apply across all local tiers:

- **If you cannot work from home, you can still go to work.**
- Continue to maintain strict social distancing with anyone outside of your household or support bubble, wash your hands regularly and avoid touching your face.
- You can go out and exercise in an outdoor public place

Further advice at Tier 2:

- Do not meet with people indoors in any setting unless they are part of your household or support bubble. You may see friends and family you do not live with **outside**, including in a garden or other outdoor space. If you do so, you must not meet in a group of more than 6.
- You are encouraged to continue to go outside because of the benefits of exercise.
- **All pupils and students should continue to attend education settings** unless they are one of the very small number of pupils or students under paediatric or other NHS care and have been advised by their GP or clinician not to attend an education setting. Children and young people whose parents or carers are CEV should also continue to go to school.



Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV) Pupils



Local arrangements

- Children under the care of Barts should have received a joint local letter (Barts, LBTH, CCG, GPCG) to clarify whether they are still CEV or no longer CEV.
- If parents are unsure about whether their child is CEV, then they should contact the LBTH Family Information Service on 020 7364 6495 and fis@towerhamlets.gov.uk
 - The FIS team can help liaise with health and council colleagues on their behalf and offer broader support for the family
- Schools can contact the Support for Learning Service to clarify children's CEV status: roland.ramanan@towerhamlets.gov.uk
- Schools will be sent a list of CEV on their roll once an imminent data update of CEV statuses has been completed.
- Further support and advice e.g. food, medicines, finance is available on the [LBTH website](#).



Contingency Framework: Education & Childcare (1)



- The government has made it a national priority that education and childcare settings should continue to operate as normal as possible during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. This remains the default position for all areas irrespective of local restriction tiers.
- In the event that restrictions are required in schools and education settings to address Covid-19 transmission, **the government has published a framework to support contingency planning.**
- Any restrictions on education would only be as a **last resort** and may only **initiated by ministers** within the Department for Education.
- The framework sets out how restrictions would be implemented as a containment measure in the rare circumstances in which they may be required to address transmission within education settings and the community.
- Any restrictions will be kept under review and will be lifted as soon as the public health and scientific advice says it is appropriate to do so.
- **Unless advised otherwise, all settings should continue to operate as normal**, and all children and pupils should continue to attend unless they are required to self-isolate.



Contingency Framework: Education & Childcare (2)



Where the contingency framework is implemented:

Early Years & Primary Schools	Continue allowing all children to attend. In the very unlikely event that evidence supports limiting attendance, DfE may advise that only vulnerable children and children of critical workers should attend.
Middle Schools	Combined approach such as all pupils in primary year groups attending but only vulnerable children and children of critical workers in older year groups.*
Secondary Schools	Allow only vulnerable children, children of critical workers, pupils in years 11 and 13 and other pupils due to take external exams this academic year, to attend.*
Special Schools	Pupils of primary school age should continue to attend while full-time attendance is mandatory in mainstream primary schools. In the very unlikely event that evidence supports limiting attendance in primary schools, attendance will be encouraged but not mandatory for primary-school aged pupils, and parents will not be penalised for non-attendance.
Special Post-16	Continue to allow students to attend as per their usual timetable.
AP	Continue to allow students to attend full-time.

*High-quality [remote education](#) should be provided for all other pupils.



New Funding to Support Schools & Colleges



- Schools and colleges facing the greatest combined staffing and funding pressures will be able to claim via a new short-term Covid workforce fund, as part of the government's national priority of keeping education settings open.
- On 27 November, the Department for Education, announced the fund which will be backdated to 01 November and cover the current half term, with **detailed guidance due to be published shortly**.
- It is designed for schools and colleges facing significant funding pressure, and will cover the costs of high levels of staff absences over a minimum threshold, to help ensure schools and colleges can remain open.
- Further information, including eligibility criteria, is available [here](#).



End of Term Planning Guidance for Schools

- PHE has agreed a **6-day window after the final day of teaching** in which schools and further education providers are asked to remain contactable so they can assist with contact tracing.
- This will allow enough time for positive Covid-19 cases to be identified and confirmed by a test and for relevant contacts in the education setting to be traced.
- Beyond 6 days after the final day of teaching, school and further education staff are not asked to play a role in contact tracing.
- To ensure that staff get the time off they need and deserve, schools may wish to use an INSET day, making Friday 18 December a non-teaching day - using it day for staff training – and bringing the start term in January forward.
- For the first 6 days after the end of term, **schools are not asked to be on-call at all times**. Staff responsible for contact tracing may designate a limited period in the day to receive notification of positive cases and advise close contacts to self-isolate (this can be done by text or email).
- The DfE helpline and PHE advice service will be available to support with any queries.
- More information is available [here](#).



COVID Symptoms & Transmission



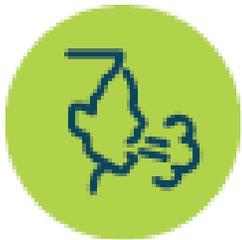
Covid-19 symptoms



A high temperature

This means they feel hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to measure their temperature).

OR



A new continuous cough

This means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if they usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual).

OR



A loss or change to their sense of smell or taste

This means they've noticed they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

- Covid-19 is unlikely without any of these 3 core symptoms
- If a child does not have symptoms of Covid-19 but has other cold-like symptoms, such as runny nose:
 - They do not need to be tested
 - Their household do not need to self-isolate
 - They can attend school if fit to do so



Coughing

- Remember, children cough for lots of reasons:
 - Clearing throat
 - Coughs/colds
 - Hayfever (postnasal drip)
 - Asthma etc
- New and continuous coughs are a symptom of COVID
 - This means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
 - If they usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual
- **If you hear a child coughing:**
 - Ask the child if they are OK and can explain the cough
 - Observe the child to see if it appears to be persistent
 - Ensure that there is stringent adherence to infection protection and control measures
 - Take action when the cough appears to be new and persistent
 - Exercise sympathetic curiosity and avoid stigmatisation



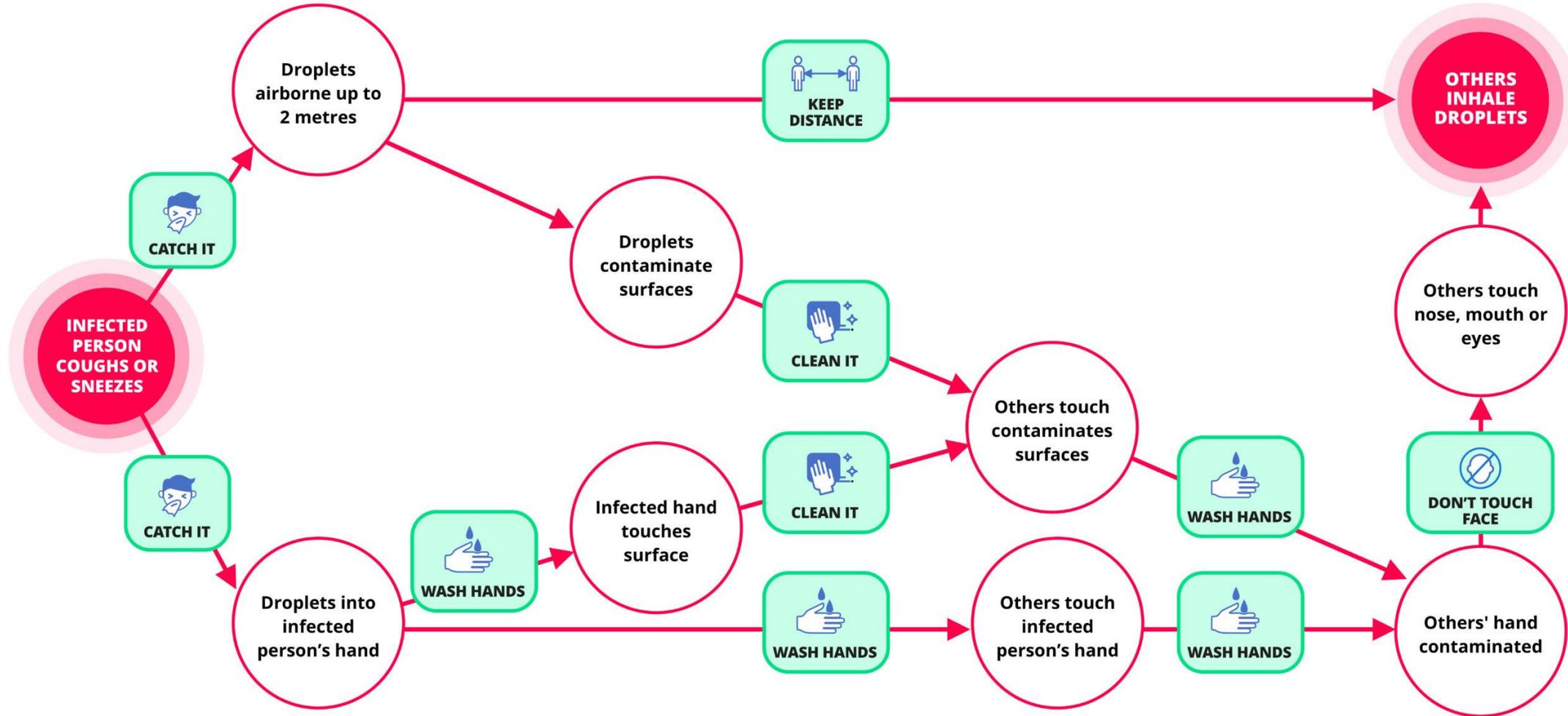
How COVID-19 is transmitted



- Coronavirus is mainly transmitted through droplets generated when an infected person coughs, sneeze, talks or sings.
- These droplets are too heavy to hang in the air. They quickly fall on floors or surfaces around that person.
- Direct transmission: inhaling the droplets of an infected person
- Indirect transmission: through contact with a contaminated object
- Airborne/aerosol transmission (very small droplets) **may** occur:
 - When aerosol-generating procedures are done in health care settings
 - Potentially in indoor crowded, poorly ventilated settings
- More research is needed to assess actual significance for transmission
- No published reports of transmission through faeces/urine/sweat



How COVID is transmitted



Infection Prevention & Control



Infection Prevention & Control

A hierarchy of controls where risk of infection is reduced substantially:

1. Minimise contact with individuals who are **unwell**
2. Frequent **hand cleaning** and good hygiene
3. Good **respiratory hygiene**
4. Regular **cleaning** of settings:
 - ✓ Clean rooms every day
 - ✓ Especially frequently touched surfaces
 - ✓ Keep doors open- where possible
 - ✓ Play equipment cleaned
 - ✓ Remove soft furnishings or soft toys
5. Minimise contact and mixing

Risk is a continuum- aim to reduce it as much as possible



Protective Measures for Settings

Guidance published by DfE details key actions that [schools](#) and [early years settings](#) should take, in reference to **Prevention** and **Response to infection**

- **Numbers 1-5 and 8** must in place at all times
- **Numbers 6** should be applied as appropriate
- **Numbers 7** applies in specific circumstances
- **Numbers 9-11** must be followed in every case where they are relevant.

Prevention

1. **Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell** by ensuring that those who have COVID-19 symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school
2. **Where recommended, use face coverings in schools**
3. **Clean hands thoroughly more often than usual**
4. **Ensure good respiratory hygiene** by promoting the ‘catch it, bin it, kill it’ approach
5. **Introduce enhanced cleaning**, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents
6. **Minimise contact between individuals** and maintain social distancing wherever possible
7. **Where necessary, wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)**
8. **Keep occupied spaces well ventilated**
9. **Engage with the NHS Test and Trace process**
10. **Manage confirmed cases** of coronavirus (COVID-19) amongst the school community
11. **Contain any outbreak** by following local health protection team advice

Response



Further Practical Actions to Reduce Risk

(from the Government's Primary School Planning Guidance)



The key aim is to reduce contact between different groups – consider taking the following actions:

- **Stagger start and end times** to reduce volumes at entrances
- Encourage parents and carers to **limit public transport** where possible and avoid peak times
- Use **clear signage** to identify drop off/pick up sites
- **Stagger play times** so ideally only one group of 15 children is in an area at once.
- **Ensure staff maintain social distancing** during breaks
- **Rework larger gatherings** like assemblies for smaller classes



Creating behaviour change in schools



Behaviour change principle	What it means for COVID-19
Mental models	It may be useful to embed advice in a diagram showing how each protective behaviour blocks the route from the infected person to other people's airways
Social norms	Make protective behaviours seem normal and expected and encourage polite giving and receiving of feedback
Emotions	Aim to create a sweet spot between complacency and anxiety, as well as moderate disgust and accompany all such messaging with information about how people can protect themselves
Replacing behaviours	Advise people to keep hands below shoulder level to help them avoid touching their face
Making it easy	Advise on how to build protective behaviours into everyday routines and prepare for anticipated problems e.g. if people are concerned about frequent handwashing causing dry skin, advise to carry moisturiser



Effective Handwashing

- Wash hands thoroughly for 20 seconds with running water and soap
- Wash hands regularly throughout the day
- Ensure everyone washes their hands as soon as they enter the school
- There are plenty of resources available to teach children to do this effectively
- Place posters on effective handwashing technique above every sink



1. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ij1I0OB2hk>
2. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9VjeIWLnEg&feature=youtu.be>



Key Messages (1)

Topic	Recommendation
Hand sanitiser	Hand sanitiser is not a replacement for handwashing and should not be over-used in schools. Normalising effective handwashing practice is advised.
Regular cleaning	Clean and disinfect regularly touched objects and surfaces more often than usual using standard cleaning products.
Social distancing	Aim to create an environment where social distancing requires minimal effort & thought Where social distancing is not possible, implement other infection control strategies afterwards to reduce the risk of COVID transmission (e.g. handwashing), being mindful of the ways that COVID is transmitted.
Temperature checking	Schools are advised not to implement routine temperature checking as it is not a reliable means of identifying COVID19 and may incentivise children with potential fever to attend school for confirmation when they should self-isolate, increasing the risk of transmission. If you choose to use a routine temperature check despite the lack of supporting evidence, a child with high temperature (above 38°C) should (a) return home immediately, (b) self-isolate with their family as per national guidelines and (c) order a COVID19 test for confirmation.



Key Messages (2)



Topic	Recommendation
Face coverings	<p>Children under the age of 11 do not need to wear a face covering</p> <p>Head teachers have the discretion to decide whether to ask staff or visitors to wear face coverings in circumstances where social distancing cannot be maintained.</p> <p>Under tier 2 restrictions, face coverings should be worn by students and staff in secondary schools and further education colleges in communal spaces, outside of classrooms, where social distancing cannot be maintained. Exemptions apply (see here). No one should be excluded from education for not having a face covering.</p>
Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	<p>Only necessary if a child, young person or other learner becomes unwell with symptoms of COVID while in their setting and needs direct personal care until they can return home:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Face mask should be worn by the supervising adult if 2m distancing cannot be maintained• If contact is necessary, gloves, an apron and a face mask should be worn. If there is a risk of splashing to the eyes (e.g. coughing, spitting, or vomiting), eye protection should be worn.• If 2m distance can be maintained, no PPE is required



Accessing PPE for schools



PPE supplies are limited - where possible please source from your usual supplier.

Other Options:

[Amazon](#) has opened its PPE supply route to schools. Stock is available immediately for next day delivery.

If you cannot access supplies via normal routes:

- Tower Hamlets Council can provide an emergency 7-day supply through its mutual aid scheme:
 - ✓ Complete the “**LBTH Covid-19 Secure**” risk assessment
 - Set out your school’s PPE needs within the wider infection control measures taken
 - Outline contexts for use of PPE that depart from current national guidelines - [DfE Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings](#)
 - ✓ Complete PPE request form setting out what PPE and what volume is required.
 - ✓ Send risk assessment and request form to ppe@towerhamlets.gov.uk cc-ing PHCov19@towerhamlets.gov.uk
- PPE will be issued following confirmation of appropriate training on use, removal and disposal.
- PPE can be collected in person from John Onslow House or can be delivered to the school
- Any reordering of PPE needs to be undertaken along with receipt of updated risk assessment
- This process will be continually refined and may be subject to changes
- **LBTH PPE queries:** 0207 364 3656



Managing Specific Issues

Topic	Recommendation
Changing nappies	<p>Staff should follow their normal practice when changing nappies and caring for babies more generally, provided the child is not showing symptoms of coronavirus. This includes continuing to use the PPE that they would normally wear in these situations, for example aprons and gloves. If a child shows symptoms, they should not attend a childcare setting.</p>
Caring for children who regularly spit	<p>If non-symptomatic children present behaviours which may increase the risk of droplet transmission (such as spitting), they should continue to receive care in the same way with any existing routine use of PPE.</p> <p>To reduce risk of Covid-19 transmission, no additional PPE is necessary, but additional space and frequent cleaning of surfaces, objects and toys will be required. Cleaning arrangements should be increased in all settings, with a specific focus on surfaces which are touched a lot .</p>
Dealing with fights	<p>Consider how COVID-19 might be transmitted in those situations, when staff may need to break up a fight: (a) touching a student's clothes in cases where a student has Covid-19 and there is virus on the clothes; (b) droplet transmission - shouting or spitting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Washing hands and cleaning surfaces after an incident will reduce infection risk- Infection risk increases with length of exposure and breaking up fights is a short exposure- If spitting occurs, implement immediate first aid e.g. washing eyes, nose, mouth with water- Where children are known to have a high risk of spitting (e.g. special needs), risk assessments should be completed to assess the suitability of PPE.



Sport and Physical Education



- Now is a vital time to promote physical activity to support children's physical & mental health.
- For children to remain fit & healthy, the recommendation is 60 minutes of daily physical activity.
- **Children can continue participating in PE and sport** where it is part of the curriculum or part of the core timetable of the school.
- Schools must only provide team sports listed on the [return to recreational team sport framework](#). These include basketball, baseball, cricket, gymnastics, rugby, football and many others.
- Government guidance on sport and physical education is available to see [here](#).

Top Tips:

- Keep pupils in consistent groups and maximise distancing
- Pay attention to cleaning & hygiene. Clean sports equipment thoroughly between uses.
- Prioritize outdoor sports and keep large indoor spaces well ventilated.
- Make break times, lessons and play active and encourage activities such as the Daily Mile.
- Encourage children and their parents/carers to walk or cycle when travelling to and from school.



Managing COVID in education settings



When to isolate and when to get tested



Confirmed or suspected case

Contacts of case

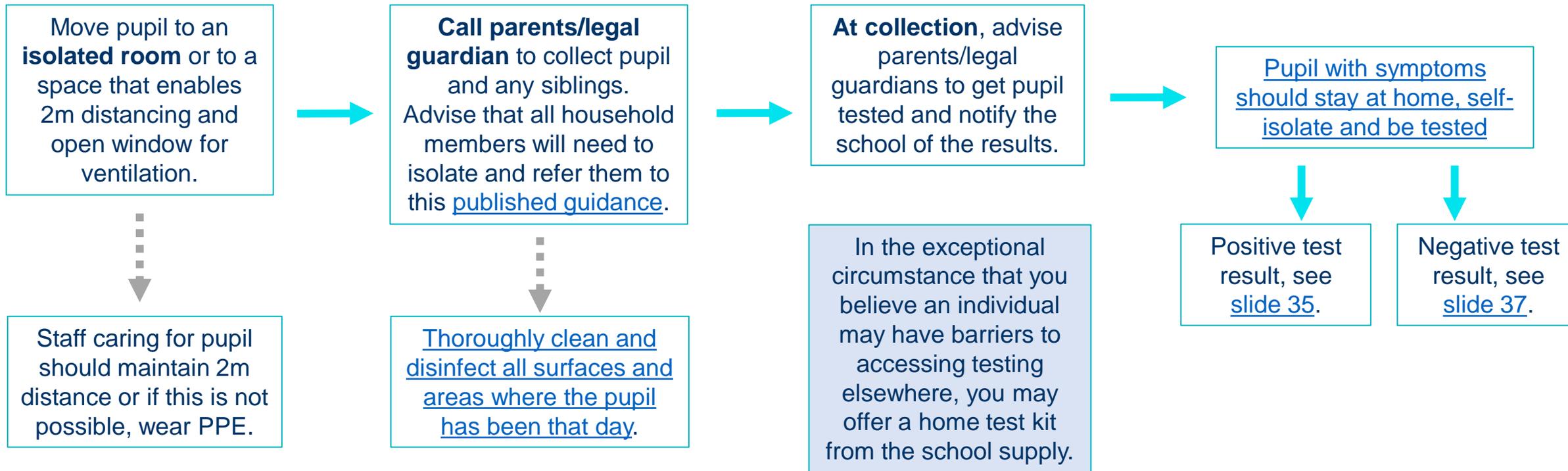
Contacts of contacts

Isolate	Yes	Yes	No
Get tested	Yes (if suspected)	No (unless symptoms)	No (unless symptoms)



Pupil displays Covid-19 symptoms

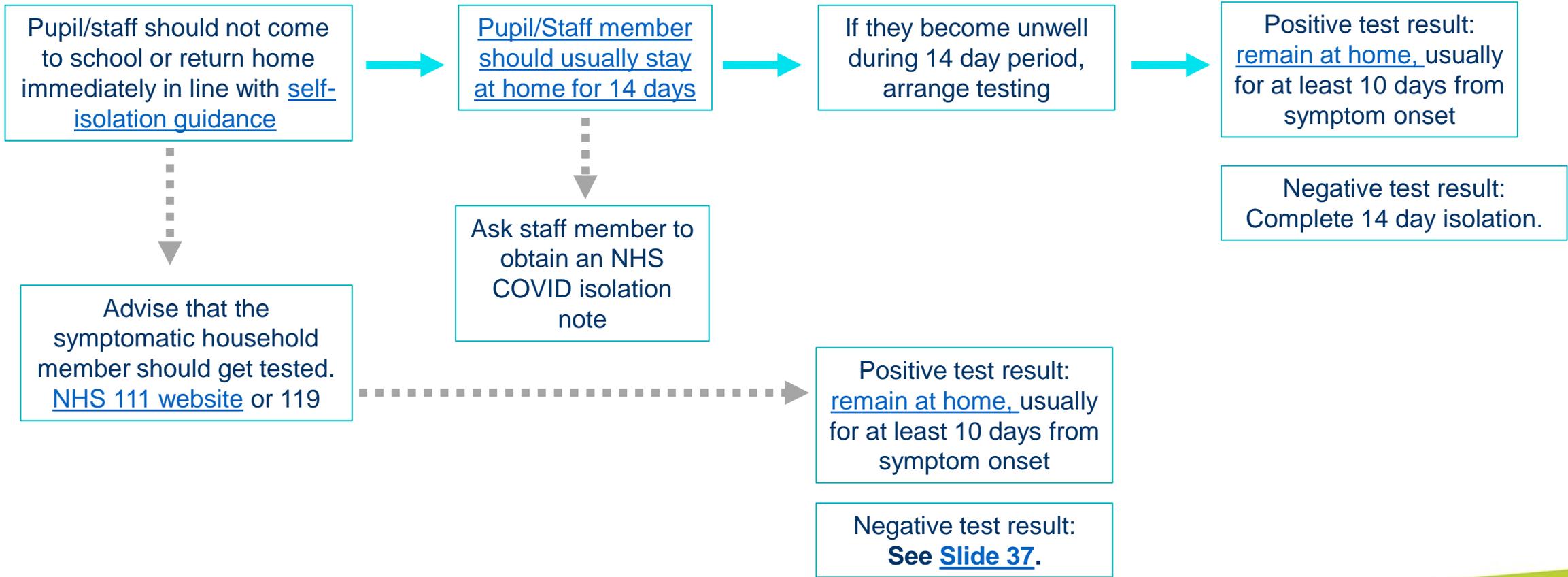
Unsure? Use the [NHS COVID symptom checker](#)



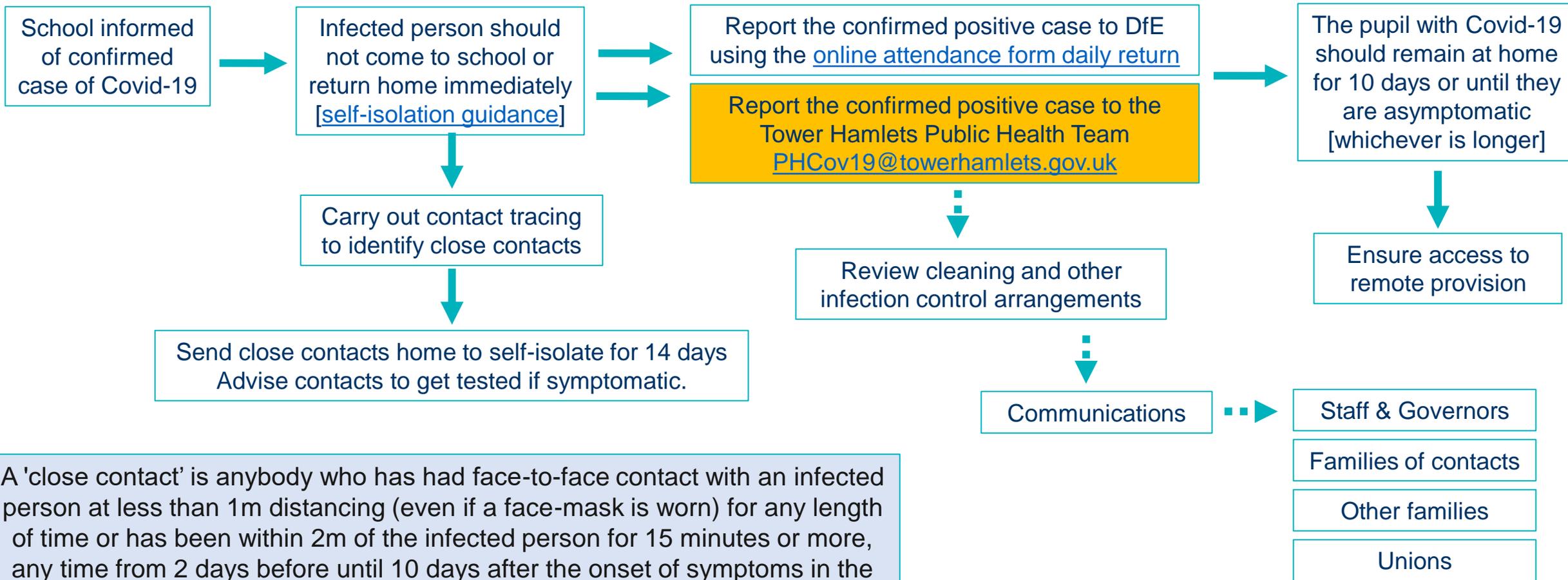
Ctrl-Click on boxes to be taken through to websites for more information



Household member of staff/pupil displays Covid-19 symptoms



Pupil or staff member tests positive for Covid-19



A 'close contact' is anybody who has had face-to-face contact with an infected person at less than 1m distancing (even if a face-mask is worn) for any length of time or has been within 2m of the infected person for 15 minutes or more, any time from 2 days before until 10 days after the onset of symptoms in the infected person (as this is when they are infectious to others).



Contact London Coronavirus Response Cell (LCRC) in the case of one of the following:



Primary Schools

- 10% (or more) of a bubble is affected within 14 days (e.g. 3 or more confirmed cases in a bubble of 30 people)
- 10% (or more) of staff are affected within 14 days (e.g. 6 or more confirmed cases in a staff of 60)
- 3 (or more) bubbles within your school contain at least one confirmed case
- There have been any admissions to hospital in your students or staff members due to COVID-19
- Your school is for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)

Secondary Schools

- 5 or more students are affected within 14 days (i.e. 5 or more confirmed cases)
- 10% (or more) of staff are affected within 14 days (e.g. 6 or more confirmed cases of COVID-19 in staff of 60)
- 3 (or more) bubbles within your school contain at least one confirmed case
- There have been any admissions to hospital in your students or staff members due to COVID-19
- Your school is for children and young people with SEND
- Your school is a boarding school.



Managing negative test results



- People with negative results should only return to school/work if they feel well enough to do so.
- If an individual with symptoms is tested in their household and receives a negative result, they can return to work immediately, providing they are well enough and have not had a fever for 48 hours.
- If a household member tests positive, but the eligible worker tests negative, the worker can return to work on day eleven from the start of their symptoms if they feel well enough and have not had a fever for 48 hours.
- If the individual does not have symptoms but a household member tests positive, they should continue to self-isolate in line with national guidance
- If, after returning to work/school, they later develop symptoms they should follow national guidance and self-isolate.
- If any member of the household receives a positive result, please continue to follow the national guidance.



COVID Testing



Covid-19 Tests



1. Swab tests detect the presence of the virus (antigen / RNA)

- ✓ Currently available via NHS Test and Trace
- ✓ More accurate when it is used on people who have symptoms
 - Tests should **not be ordered** if you do not have symptoms unless advised by a health professional
 - Testing is most effective within three days of symptoms developing
 - No testing should be undertaken after day five of symptoms developing, unless for a specific reason

2. Antibody tests to see if you have previously had the virus

- ✓ Increasingly available to selected groups
- ✓ Shows a recent or past infection
- ✓ Can detect whether someone has had an infection regardless of whether or not they had symptoms.
 - Scientists are trying to develop and scale up tests that detect antibodies to COVID-19
 - A positive antibody test does not necessarily mean the person has immunity to future infection. Research is being conducted to understand this better.



How to book a test



Call **119** or go on nhs.uk/119
Call **111** if your child is under five-years-old.

- Keep self-isolating whilst awaiting a result
- Please don't send children to their GP to get a test

Testing site options

- Lea Valley Athletics, O2 Arena
- Mobile testing unit located at Billingsgate Market
- Watney Market Idea Store
- Mile End Park
- Jack Dash House
- Home testing kits

Priority testing for school staff:

As a priority schools should register with the national "[employers' referral portal](#)". This will allow settings to arrange testing for staff members directly.

Making an order for additional coronavirus (COVID-19) tests:

Please find here [link](#) to the Gov.uk website which provides details on how schools & early years settings can access COVID-19 tests, along with relevant contact numbers.



Seasonal flu vaccination in children

- As we head into the new year it is vital to encourage the uptake of the flu vaccine.
 - flu season continues until March.
- The flu vaccination won't protect against COVID-19 but is critical to protecting the general health of the population, particularly those at high risk from COVID-19, and vulnerable family members at home.
- The flu vaccination is administered in schools by Vaccination UK to children in Reception to Year 7 via a nasal spray.
- **Vaccination UK are now offering a non-porcine (pork) alternative.**
- Parents who do not consent for their child to have the flu nasal spray must state why in order to receive the non-porcine alternative (Vaccination UK will contact parents to arrange this).

Schools are asked to:

- Agree a process for providing parents with the invitation letter, information leaflet and consent form
- Send reminders through email or text distribution lists, parent newsletters, visual display screens etc.
- Endorse the programme on your website, etc.
- Provide opportunities to incorporate flu health messages into the curriculum and across the school community

Contact Sumaira.Tayyab@towerhamlets.gov.uk for more information



Keeping in touch



1. Public health slidedeck in HTB
2. Regular webinars for TH children's professionals (dates TBC)
3. COVID-19 Community Champions
 - Please encourage your communities to sign up
 - Keep residents informed of latest advice and guidance
 - Help inform and support friends and family
 - Virtual engagement sessions: Tuesdays 7-8pm
 - Weekly newsletter
 - Sign up on [LBTH website](#)

