

18 September 2020

Please find below the latest advice for parents/ carers from Central Bedfordshire Council.

The latest advice for parents/carers from C Beds Council

Here's what you need to know about school if your child has a cold

We recognise that with children back in schools, bugs and illnesses may circulate, such as the common cold or smaller viral infections.

If your child has cold symptoms such as a runny nose or sore throat, but no fever, then treat it as such, but they should still attend school unless they are too poorly to do so.

If they are well enough to be at school, they should follow standard hygiene practice by washing their hands regularly and using tissues to catch coughs or sneezes, then disposing of them correctly.

Your child's school should not refuse your child access unless they are too unwell to be there and they should also not tell you to get a COVID test, if your child does not have any of the following [main symptoms](#):

- A new and persistent dry cough
- A high fever or temperature
- A loss or change of taste or smell

Who are COVID tests for?

COVID-19 tests are only for those people displaying one or more of the main symptoms.

If your child has any of these symptoms, then you should:

- [Get a test](#) as soon as possible to check if you have coronavirus.
- [Stay at home](#) and do not have visitors until you get your test result – only leave your home to have a test. Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, must also stay at home until you get your result.
- Tell the school

For most people, COVID-19 will be a mild illness, but it's important to follow this guidance to help stop the spread.

If you need a Coronavirus test

If you need a COVID test, do **not** ring 111.

The NHS 111 service should be used for those who need **urgent medical advice**. It **cannot** be used to arrange Coronavirus testing.

Instead, please visit the [online testing portal](#). Test availability is refreshed throughout the day, if tests are not available near you, please try again later.