

Schools

What happens if there is an outbreak in my school?

If multiple cases of coronavirus appear in a specific workplace, either Wigan Council or Public Health England will be able to help manage the outbreak.

The response from the health protection teams is likely to be slightly different on account of each school's specific circumstances.

All children, adults and their households attending schools will be able to be tested and our guidance sets out the protocols to be followed in the event of a positive test result.

What happens if a pupil or teacher tests positive?

If a contact tracer discovers that a pupil or teacher who tests positive for coronavirus has spent some time in a school while they could be infectious, our processes include taking details of the school and the classes the person attended where possible. They may contact the school for further information.

They may gather further information about people who may have come into recent close contact with the person with coronavirus so they can be advised to self-isolate and also to ascertain if anyone else is reporting symptoms.

Our work may also include finding out if there are any staff or children who may be more vulnerable to severe illness as well as providing the school with information to pass on to wider groups of staff and pupils to reinforce hand and respiratory hygiene messages and remind them to self-isolate if they experience symptoms.

The process is handled sensitively and in confidence, for instance schools do not announce who the person with coronavirus is.