

What to do if your child has symptoms of coronavirus

If your child has symptoms of COVID-19, please do not take them to your doctor or pharmacist – stay at home and use the NHS 111 online service at 111.nhs.uk for urgent medical advice.

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- A high temperature
- A new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- A loss or change to sense of smell or taste - this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

What to do if your child seems very unwell:

Children and babies will still get illnesses that can make them very unwell quickly. It's important to get medical help if you need it.

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Asking for a test to check if you have coronavirus * [Tests are not suitable for children under 5](#)

You need to have the test in the first 5 days of having symptoms. It's best to ask for the test in the first 3 days, as it may take a day or two to arrange.

What the test involves

The test usually involves taking a swab of the inside of your nose and the back of your throat, using a long cotton bud. You can do the swab yourself or someone can do it for you.

Will you get a test? There is very high demand for tests at the moment.

Find out how to ask for a test to check if you or someone you live with has coronavirus

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-coronavirus-test>



Useful Contacts

- ⇒ Use the [111 online coronavirus service](#) if your child is **5 or over**.
- ⇒ Call 111 if they're **under 5**.
- ⇒ <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-in-children/>
- ⇒ <https://www.gov.uk/apply-coronavirus-test>