

What to do if a child has a runny nose with a cough or high temperature

We are faced with a growing number of children presenting with a runny nose and a temperature or cough. This is very likely to be classic symptoms of infections common in autumn/winter. However, as we know a high temperature and a new continuous cough are symptoms of COVID-19. Given the context of our school and the needs of our children, it is important to implement a cautious and balanced approach. Through discussion with Public Health Trafford, we have agreed the procedures below:

1. A child with a runny nose AND displaying a cough or high temperature will NOT be able to attend or stay in school
2. Parents/carers must seek medical guidance from NHS111, GP or pharmacist to establish what action is required
3. Parents/carers inform school of medical guidance and agreed action (likely return to school etc.) – this is very important to ensure the correct procedures are followed
4. Child returns to school when well enough. Please note a child must be free of fever for 48 hours before returning to school

This guidance does not replace procedures for suspected COVID-19 – the schools COVID-19 Risk Assessment will be implemented immediately for suspected coronavirus cases