



Identification and management of outbreaks of COVID-19 in care/residential homes

If **any** residents in the care home develop **any** of the following symptoms, contact the Health Protection Team on 0113 386 0300, for advice and to arrange for swabs to be sent out.



Fever of
37.8°C
or above



A new, continuous
cough



New onset of
influenza like
illness or
worsening
shortness of
breath

If any members of staff report that they have symptoms, they should be excluded from work, in line with national guidance, and testing can be arranged via CQC.



If 2 or more residents and/or staff meet these criteria within 14 days of each other, you may have an outbreak of COVID-19. Contact the HPT and take the following steps:

What the HPT will do:

- Work with care home staff to identify the cause of the outbreak.
- Complete a risk assessment and advise on infection prevention and control measures.
- PHE will arrange testing of symptomatic residents, CQC arrange testing for staff.

Ensure standard infection control measures are put in place immediately, including (but not limited to):

- Isolate **any** suspected/confirmed cases amongst residents for 14 days from symptom onset.
- Suspend visitor access to affected resident(s) for 14 days from symptom onset.
- Staff in contact with the resident to use appropriate PPE.
- Care home to ensure all staff, visitors and residents are aware of and practice good respiratory and hand hygiene.
- Ensure appropriate cleaning procedures are adhered to.
- We advise if any staff members are symptomatic (temperature $\geq 37.8^\circ\text{C}$ or new, continuous cough) then they should self-isolate at home for 7 days from symptom onset.
- Check the government website [gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus) for the latest guidance on admission and care of residents during Covid-19 incident in a care home, cleaning in non-healthcare settings, and staying at home guidance (for staff and visitors).
- If patient requires hospital transfer, **please ensure receiving department and ambulance service are informed of outbreak.**