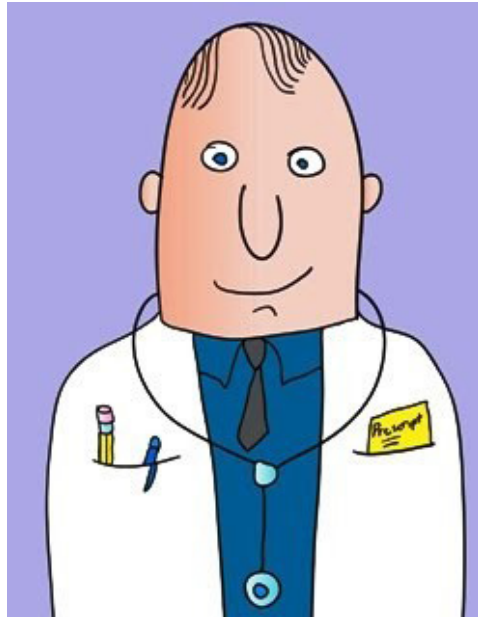


COVID-19 Information for Younger Children Attending School



Why is school so different now?

Some people are getting very poorly at the moment. This is because there is a new illness in our country. Often when we get ill, our mums, dads, carers or sometimes a doctor can give us medicine to help us get better. Because this is a new virus, that is more tricky.



We know that younger children, like you, seem less likely to be poorly than other people. But sometimes, even though you seem absolutely fine, you might be able to pass the virus on to someone else. This is why most people are being told to stay at home.

Some mums and dads do important jobs that help everyone. They may work in hospitals or food shops, or they may be a police officer or a delivery driver. They need to go to work so that people can be looked after and have things that they need, like food and medicine. Schools have said they will look after children whose mums and dads do these important jobs. They have also said they will look after children who need to be in school to keep them safe and well. That is why you are going to school but most children are staying at home.



When you are at school, it will be different from normal. You may have different teachers and you may do different activities than you usually do. The adults are still there to keep you safe and to help you to learn and have fun. You may meet children who are not normally in your class. They may be younger or older than you. But you are there to play and learn together. It is like you are a new class of friends!

When you are at school, it is really important that you wash your hands really well lots of times each day (you can sing some great songs while you do this to make it fun and do it right!). You need to try not to touch the other children and adults too much when you are playing or learning. This is to keep everyone as safe as possible.



When you are at home, it is also important that you do not visit people in your family who do not live with you. Of course you can still see your mummy or daddy if they do not live with you. It may make you feel sad that you cannot go to your grandads' or auntie's house to see them. But you will be able to say 'hi' by phone or on a video call. When you are at school, you could make them a card or draw them a picture – there are lots of lovely ways to stay in touch.

You are doing a really important job by going to school so your mum or dad can keep working. This is a really important thing to do so we can help keep everyone safe.



Just think how exciting it will be when you can see all your family and friends again, and have lots of fun!