

## Supporting staff and parents when children have a cough

Is the cough a **new, continuous cough** - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more **prolonged** coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)

Yes

1. Do they have a temperature?

Yes

**YES**

- The child stays off and needs a test, they should remain off until the result comes back. Let the school know the result asap.
- If negative and temperature is back to normal they can return with a cough.
- If positive they should isolate for 10 days from the start of the symptoms and rest of household should isolate for 14 days.

No

**No**

Do they have a sore throat, runny nose or sinus congestion? Very likely to be cold related, check the cough fits the defined for prolonged if yes remain off school and get a test. If no they can come to school

No

**No**

Could it be it hayfever related? if yes try antihistamine medication. If cough eases with medication then they can return and no test needed.

No

**Not prolonged as defined**

They can come to school and no test needed.