

# What is self-isolation?

- Self-isolation is when you stay at home because you have or might have coronavirus (COVID-19).
- This helps stop the virus spreading to other people.

# When to self-isolate?

## If you think you have coronavirus

- you have any [symptoms of coronavirus](#) (a high temperature, a new, continuous cough or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste)
- you're waiting for a coronavirus test result
- you've tested positive for coronavirus – this means you have coronavirus

**Isolate for 10 days**

from the start of your own symptoms – that's how long you are infectious. After 10 days if you still have symptoms other than cough or loss of sense of smell/taste, you must continue to self-isolate until you feel better.

## If you are a close contact of a person with coronavirus

- you live with someone who has symptoms, is waiting for a test result or has tested positive
- NHS Test and Trace has told you that you are a close contact of someone who has tested positive for coronavirus.
- **you are in a “bubble” with someone who has tested positive for coronavirus in a school, college or EY setting.**

**Isolate for 14 days**

from the day you were last in contact with the person OR if you live with the person, from the start of their symptoms – it can take up to 14 days for symptoms to appear