

Standard message for communicating COVID results by telephone in patients discharged before results available.

For both: I have been asked to phone you to let you know your child's results. I am not a member of the clinical staff and so I cannot answer any clinical questions.

Negative

Your child's test for COVID 19 is negative. This means that the symptoms for which your child was admitted were not due to COVID19. At present we are not testing for other viruses, so we may not be able to let you know you what it was that caused your child's illness. If your child had other tests, a doctor or nurse will phone you if we need to do anything on the basis of the results.

This means that your child does not need to continue in isolation once their symptoms settle. It also means that household members do not need to self-isolate if they were doing so only on the basis of your child's symptoms.

If your child becomes unwell again, and develops a new fever, or a worsening persistent cough, then you will need to start isolating again, and follow the standard guidance.

Positive

Your child's test for COVID19 is positive. This means that they will need to continue to be in isolation until their symptoms settle and for at least 10 days. It also means that household members need to continue to self isolate for a total of 14 days.

Most children will recover from COVID19 like any other cough or cold, and the risks of them getting worse again are small. However, if your child becomes more unwell, and you feel they need to be seen again, please call NHS24 who will put you through to a clinical team. Please do not phone the hospital directly. If your child looks very unwell, particularly if they are very breathless, or blue round the lips, you should call 999.

If your child gets fever and cough again sometime in the next few months, as we know that they have already had COVID they will not need to be isolated again, and household contacts will not need to self-isolate, provided they remain well.