

Self-isolation

Self-isolating (staying at home) is not a legal requirement if someone has covid-19 (coronavirus) symptoms or has tested positive.

To decide what a worker should do, employers should follow:

- government guidance
- their organisation's self-isolation policy, if they have one

Follow the government guidance for:

- England – [people with covid symptoms on GOV.UK](#)
- Scotland – [people with covid symptoms on NHS inform](#)
- Wales – [people with covid symptoms on the Welsh Government website](#)

Sick pay entitlement

If a worker is not able to work because they're ill with covid, normal sick pay rules apply. They must get any [sick pay they're entitled to](#).

Workers should check their organisation's absence policy to see what it says about reporting and [proving sickness absence](#).

Policies on self-isolation

Workers should check whether their employer has a policy on self-isolation.

A policy can help workers to understand what they should do if they have covid symptoms or have tested positive.

A policy should say when to stay at home, and what types of support and pay are available in the organisation.

It should say:

- what to do if someone goes to work but is unfit to work – for example, whether they're sent home and paid in full, in part or get statutory sick pay (SSP)
- what happens if someone tests positive or has symptoms – for example, whether they should come to work or work from home
- what happens if someone tests positive but has no symptoms – for example, whether they should work from home
- the employer's legal obligations for the health, safety and wellbeing of workers – for example, how they'll support workers at home