



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

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26th. January 2021

Deputy Cian O Callaghan
TD
Dail Eireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

PQ Question 1512/21: To ask the Minister for Health if his Department is advising doctors to refer teachers for a Covid-19 test who show only one symptom of the virus; and if he will make a statement on the matter .

Dear Deputy O Callaghan,

The above PQ has been forwarded to my Department for direct response to you on same.

The guidelines available to GP on symptoms of Covid-19 and who should be tested are clear and available on the [HPSC website](#). These guidelines are for all people aged 13 or over. This will include all education sector staff. Cases of Covid-19 in school during their infectious time period are notified to Departments of Public health who then undertake a Public Health Risk Assessment. Close contacts are determined through this process and they will be excluded and referred for testing, regardless of their symptom status. Close contacts without symptoms must restrict their movements; close contacts with symptoms consistent with Covid-19 should self-isolate whilst awaiting their test result.

I trust this information will be of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

DR. KEVIN KELLEHER, FFPHM, FFPHMI
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