

# Responding to an Outbreak in a Community Care Setting

An outbreak of COVID-19 is defined as **two or more staff** in a Home Support or a Voluntary and Community Sector Organisation, diagnosed with symptoms compatible with Covid-19. An outbreak can also be two or more staff who have tested positive for Covid-19 **that may not present symptoms.**



Symptoms of Covid-19 aren't always displayed, testing can be arranged for asymptomatic people, and for on-going outbreaks, via the DHSC at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-testing-for-homecare-workers> or phone 0300 303 2713

Common Symptoms of Covid-19 include	Consider other less common symptoms
Fever	Sore throat
Cough	Conjunctivitis
Shortness of breath	Anorexia/ not eating
Tiredness/ Fatigue	Increased Sputum/Phlegm production
Loss of sense of smell/taste (anosmia)	Dizziness
	Headache
	Runny Nose
	Chest Pain
	Diarrhoea
	Sickness/ Nausea/ Vomiting
Covid-19 should be considered in older person(s) presenting with delirium (confused, more agitated or sleepy) or reduced mobility (falling, and 'off legs')	

The following link provides guidance created by Public Health England on good practice within the workplace during an outbreak within a care home, which may be of use within your offices:

<https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/2020-09/Job%2017%20care%20homes%20outbreak%20A3%20poster.pdf>