

13 April 2022

SNCT 22/89

COVID-19 Related Absences

Dear Colleague

The SNCT Circular SNCT 21/84 (as extended by SNCT 22/87) will no longer be in effect from 19 April 2022. In its place new temporary arrangements have been introduced with regard to Covid-19 related absences caused by illness, infection or requirement to isolate.

The temporary changes to the SNCT Handbook previously agreed under SNCT/21/84 are now amended as follows:

COVID-19

- 6.36.1 Absence from work caused by COVID-19 will be treated as paid special leave for the duration that the person is unable to work, or 10 days, whichever is shorter.
- 6.36.2 If an employee is asked to self-isolate through test and protect, medical advice, by the employer or similar arrangements and can work at home, they should do so and be paid normally. If they are unable to work, they should be paid normally for the period they are required to isolate under the provisions in paragraph 6.34 of the SNCT Handbook (Infectious Diseases).

The absences under 6.36.1 above should not be counted within absence management procedures locally.

These temporary arrangements come into effect on 19 April 2022, will be reviewed in June 2022, and will be withdrawn on 1 July 2022 unless there is agreement to continue or amend.

Yours sincerely

Simon Cameron (Employers' Side)
Louise Wilson (Teachers' Panel)
Stephanie Walsh (Scottish Government)

Joint Secretaries

To: Chief Executives
Directors of Education
Directors of Personnel
Directors of Finance
LNCT Joint Secretaries