

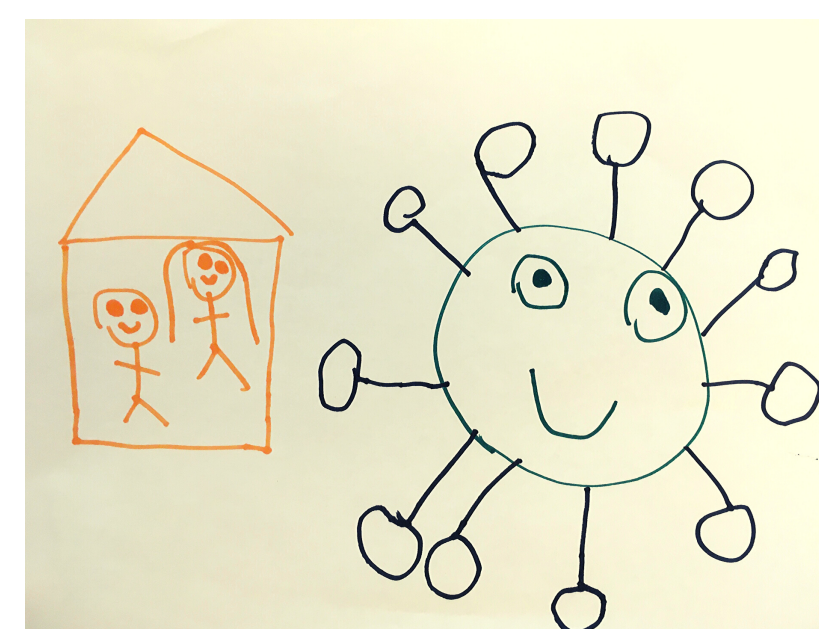
# Children's access to and understanding of information about COVID-19

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- We wanted to find out how children aged 7-12 years access and understand information about COVID-19.
- 150 children and 200 parents in the UK filled out an online survey.

## Where do children access information about coronavirus (COVID-19)?

- Most of the children who answered the survey do **not** get information from resources specifically developed for children.
- Children told us they are getting information about COVID-19 through their parents/carers or school.
- Children want information through their parents, teachers, and TV programmes like Newsround.



## What do children know about COVID-19?

- Children who answered the survey understand that washing their hands and social distancing are important.
- Children told us they have unmet information needs, such as *"people play it down and tell me it can't kill people, but people are dying each day."*
- Children have lots of questions:

*When can we go back to school?*

*When is it safe to go out again?*

*Why doesn't the virus make children poorly?*

*When will there be a cure?*

*How many people are dying each day?*

## How do parents share information about COVID-19 with their children?

- Parents who answered the survey told us that providing information to their child was a *"balancing act"*...they answered their children's questions, gave them just enough information so they didn't worry, but shielded them from *"the worst of it"*.

