



11th May 2020

Coronavirus (COVID-19):
implementing protective
measures in education and
childcare settings

PPE

- Wearing a face covering or face mask in schools or other education settings is not recommended.
- Schools and other education or childcare settings should therefore not require staff, children and learners to wear face coverings.
- Changing habits, cleaning and hygiene are effective measures in controlling the spread of the virus.
- The majority of staff in education settings will not require PPE beyond what they would normally need for their work, even if they are not always able to maintain a social distancing.
- PPE is only needed in a very small number of cases:
 - children who care routinely already involves the use of PPE
 - if a child becomes unwell of symptoms of coronavirus.

The Shielded

- Children who are advised to shield are not expected to return to school
- Shielded adults should not return to school
- If a child or adults lives with someone who is clinically vulnerable but not shielded they can return to school
- If a child or adult lives with someone who is shielded they can only attend if stringent social distancing is adhered to.



Class or group sizes

- EYFS child ratios remain in place, it is recommended within EYFS these are your group sizes
- Primary schools, classes should split in half with no more than 15 children per small group and one teacher.
- If shortage in teachers TA can be allocated to lead a group of children working under the direction of a teacher.
- Desks spaced as far apart as possible
- If you are unable to accommodate the above, seek guidance from the LA
- A solution may mean children attending a nearby school.



How to implement protective measures in an education setting before wider opening on 1 June

Planning and organising

Refresh you risk assessment and other H&S advice for your school.

Ensure all H&S compliance checks are conducted before children return

Organise classrooms to allow social distancing

Refresh the timetable – considering the below points

- which lessons or activities could take place outdoors
- reduce the movement around the building
- Stagger assembly groups
- Stagger break times so children do not move around the school at the same time
- Stagger drop off and pick up times
- Plan parent drop off protocols to minimize adult to adult contact
- Remove soft furnishing that are hard to clean



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Communicating your plans

- Inform people not to attend schools if they having symptoms
- Only one parent should bring children to school
- Tell parents drop off and collection times and points
- Make clear to parents not to gather at gates or enter the site
- Communicate early with contractors and suppliers that will need to support your plans
- Discuss cleaning requirements with contractors

When Open

Keep cohorts together where possible and:

- Ensure children are in the same small groups at all times
- Ensure the same adults are assigned to the group as far as possible
- Ensure that wherever possible children use the same classroom or area through the day with thorough cleaning at the end of the day



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For cleaning and hygiene

- Provide hand sanitiser in classrooms when sinks are not nearby
- Clean surfaces more regularly than normal
- 20 seconds hand wash routines and dry
- Catch it, bin it, kill it
- Bins with tissues emptied throughout the day
- Open windows
- Prop doors open (bearing in fire safety and safeguarding) to aid ventilation

Reduce mixing within education settings by

- Access rooms directly from outside if possible
- Consider a one-way circulation, or place a divider down the middle of the corridor
- Stagger breaks
- Stagger lunch breaks – tables to be cleaned between each year group , think about children having lunch brought to their classrooms
- Limit the number of children or the toilets at any one time



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Use outside space:

- Outside play equipment should be in used unless it be cleaned between small groups

Reduce the use of shared resources

- Limit the amount of shared resources between home and school
- Prevent the use of shared stationary and other equipment where possible

Transport arrangements

- Encourage families to walk to school
- Encourage families not to use public transport

