

Children and Families, Early Years Division Weekly News Bulletin: 25.08.21



Department
for Education

[Managing coronavirus \(COVID-19\) in education and childcare settings](#)

We have updated the contingency framework ahead of the autumn term, in line with wider government guidelines. The updated framework includes the new thresholds at which you might consider seeking public health advice and taking further action to reinforce measures already in place, updates to the circumstances in which local health protection teams or directors of public health might recommend you introduce some additional measures, and annexed guidance for managing cases in settings from 23 August.

Updated: 17.08.21

[Actions for early years and childcare providers during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#)

We have removed outdated term references, removed the guidance on routine vaccines and teething. The local outbreaks, mixing, tracing close contacts and self-isolation and face coverings sections were also updated.

Updated: 17.08.21

[Protective measures for holiday or after-school clubs and other out-of-school settings for children during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#)

Added section on 'tracing and self-isolation' to explain that children under 18 and fully vaccinated adults do not need to self-isolate if they're identified by NHS Track and Trace as a contact.

Updated: 17.08.21

[Actions for schools during the coronavirus outbreak](#)

We have made updates to the 'tracing close contacts and isolation', 'face coverings', 'stepping measures up and down' and 'travel and quarantine' sections.

Updated: 17.08.21

[Special schools and other specialist settings: coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

Clarified the circumstances under which children, pupils, students and staff should self-isolate and updated the advice on contingency planning and taking extra action if the number of positive cases increases substantially following the changes to the contingency framework.

Updated: 17.08.21

[Transport to schools and colleges during the COVID-19 pandemic](#)

Updated with further information about contact tracing and isolation.

Updated 17.08.21



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[Reported coronavirus \(COVID-19\) notifications by registered early years and childcare settings](#)

This data is published fortnightly. It gives the number of registered early years and childcare providers reporting one or more confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) by week. Reported numbers continue to fall.

Updated: 23.08.21

DfE attendance data collection

We have been informed that the data collection will continue in the autumn term on a monthly basis, we are waiting for further information to share with you at the beginning of term. The proposed dates for collection are the weeks commencing:

13th September

11th October

1x date in November to be advised

1x date in December to be advised

Department for Education COVID-19 helpline

The [Department for Education COVID-19 helpline](#) and the PHE Advice Service (option 1) is available to answer any questions you have about COVID-19 relating to education settings and children's social care.

Department for Education guidance

Our guidance to support education providers, local authorities and parents during the COVID-19 pandemic can be accessed using the links below:

- › [Guidance for early years and childcare providers](#)
- › [Guidance for schools](#)
- › [Guidance for further and higher education providers](#)
- › [Guidance for local authority children's services](#)
- › [Guidance for special schools and other specialist settings](#)

Changes for children and young people around self-isolation **from 16th August 2021**

Individuals are **exempt from the legal duty to self-isolate** if they are identified as a close contact of a confirmed case of COVID-19 by NHS Test and Trace and they meet one of four exemption criteria:

1. Fully vaccinated adults (who have completed the vaccination programme at least 14 days prior to contact with a positive case)
2. Children and young people: under the age of 18 years and 6 months
3. Clinical trial participants
4. Medical exemptions: those who can evidence that they cannot be vaccinated for medical reasons

However, fully vaccinated people identified as close contacts should follow other precautions such as wearing a face covering in enclosed spaces, and limit contact with other people, especially with anyone who is clinically extremely vulnerable.

- Individuals who are exempt from self-isolation will be advised to take a PCR test as soon as possible, unless they have received a positive PCR test result in the previous 90 days. Exempted contacts are not required to self-isolate while they wait for the results of the PCR test
- Children aged 4 and under who are identified as a contact will not be advised to take a PCR test unless the positive case was someone in their own household
- All individuals identified as contacts of a positive case will continue to be contact traced and the vaccination status of a contact will be verified by NHS Test and Trace
- Positive cases will remain under a legal duty to self-isolate regardless of vaccination status or age
- People with symptoms will continue to be advised to self-isolate and take a PCR test

Good hand hygiene, ventilation in classrooms, social distancing and wearing face coverings in crowded areas should still be encouraged

COVID-19 guidance for first responders

The government has recently released the new [COVID-19 guidance for first responders](#) please ensure your first aiders have read the updated guidance.

What is meant by a contact

A contact is a person who has been close to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. A contact can be a person who has:

- had face-to-face contact with someone less than a metre away
- been within one metre for one minute or longer without face-to-face contact
- been within 2 metres of someone for more than 15 minutes (either as a one-off contact, or added up together over one day)

The contact can be any time from 2 days before the person who tested positive developed their symptoms (or, if they did not have any symptoms, from 2 days before their positive test was taken), and up to 10 days after.

What to do if you are required to come into close contact with someone as part of your first responder duties

1. Reduce the transmission risk
 - a. Hand hygiene - Clean your hands thoroughly with soap and water or hand sanitiser after close contact with others and after touching any surfaces in the area you are working in.
 - b. The following PPE is recommended whilst providing First Aid;
 - i. disposable gloves and a disposable plastic apron
 - ii. a fluid resistant surgical face mask - It is recommended these are ordered in advance and stored with the First Aid box.
 - iii. If a risk assessment indicates the likelihood of contamination by splashes, droplets of blood or body fluids, use disposable eye protection (such as a face visor or goggles).
 - iv. Clean your hands thoroughly with soap and water or sanitiser before putting on and after taking off PPE.
 - v. The safe removal of PPE is a critical consideration to avoid self-contamination.
[Guidance on correct use of PPE is available.](#)
2. If you need to provide assistance to someone who is [unwell](#), if possible move the person to somewhere away from others. If this is not possible, ask others who are not involved in providing assistance to stay at least 2 metres away.
3. CPR:
 - a. Conduct a dynamic risk assessment
 - b. In adults, it is recommended that you do not perform mouth-to-mouth ventilation: Perform chest compressions only. Compression-only CPR may be as effective as combined ventilation and compression in the first few minutes where cardiac arrest has not occurred due to lack of oxygen (asphyxial arrest).
 - c. In children, cardiac arrest is more likely to be caused by a respiratory problem or lack of oxygen. Therefore, chest compressions alone are unlikely to be effective. If a decision is made to perform mouth-to-mouth ventilation, use a resuscitation face shield, if one is available.
 - d. If you perform mouth to mouth ventilation on someone with COVID-19 you should follow the [guidance for non-household contacts](#).
 - e. If you perform mouth-to-mouth ventilation on someone who does not have COVID-19, no additional actions need to be taken other than monitoring yourself for symptoms of COVID-19 over the following 14 days. However, if they are subsequently diagnosed with COVID-19 you may be contacted by NHS Test and Trace and asked to self-isolate.
4. Cleaning the area where assistance was provided - follow the advice for cleaning in [non-healthcare settings](#). If there has been blood or body-fluid spilt use a spill kit or paper towels or roll over the spill. Seek advice from emergency services when they arrive.

Information for routine vaccination or teething side effects in children

The NHS has updated their guidance on [baby-teething-symptoms](#). This guidance confirms that teething may cause a mild fever in children. The guidance for vaccines has not changed and provides advice for parents on how to treat a high temperature after a vaccination.

Vaccines and teething may cause a mild fever in children. This is a common and expected reaction, and self-isolation is not required unless COVID-19 is suspected. Find out more from [vaccination tips for parents](#) and [baby-teething-symptoms](#). Parents and carers should monitor side effects from a vaccination or teething, and if they are concerned about their child's health, they should seek advice from their GP or NHS 111. If COVID-19 is suspected the child should start isolating and get tested.

Parents and Carers

[What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during COVID-19](#)

Information for parents and carers about attending schools, nurseries and colleges in 2021.
Updated 17.08.21

[Guidance for parents and carers of children attending out-of-school settings during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#)

Guidance for parents and carers of children attending community activities, holiday or after-school clubs, tuition and other out-of-school settings.

Added section on 'tracing and self-isolation' to explain that children under 18 do not need to self-isolate if they're identified by NHS Track and Trace as a contact.

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