

**Transport settings (involving pupils to educational settings)**

FLOWCHART 038 B V8 28.09.2021 Source: [Government website](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safe-working-in-education-childcare-and-childrens-social-care/safe-working-in-education-childcare-and-childrens-social-care-settings-including-the-use-of-personal-protective-equipment-ppe#what-protection-is-needed-when-transporting-children)

Is the pupil [clinically extremely vulnerable](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/people-at-higher-risk-from-coronavirus/whos-at-higher-risk-from-coronavirus/) or [clinically vulnerable?](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/people-at-higher-risk-from-coronavirus/whos-at-higher-risk-from-coronavirus/)

No

Yes

Yes

No

This flowchart applies to **anyone who is transporting pupils (any age)**, even if they **do not have any confirmed/possible cases of COVID-19**1. Guidance also applies to those transporting the clinically (extremely) vulnerable2.

Is the pupil symptomatic1? E.g. transporting pupil back home if symptoms started at school and parent/guardian unable to collect3.

* Driver should NOT be [clinically vulnerable](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/people-at-higher-risk-from-coronavirus/whos-at-higher-risk-from-coronavirus/) (e.g. asthma, diabetes etc).
* Vehicle should have a barrier between the driver and pupil.
* Pupil and Driver sit 2m away if possible.
* If old enough, pupil should wear a fluid-resistant surgical mask or surgical mask.

**PPE required (Driver)**  
Gloves  
Apron  
Fluid-resistant surgical mask  
Eye protection (if risk of splashing/close contact with coughing/sneezing).

**PPE required (driver)**

Fluid resistant surgical mask

Also applies to any pupils who are [clinically vulnerable](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/people-at-higher-risk-from-coronavirus/whos-at-higher-risk-from-coronavirus/) (and are sharing the vehicle with other pupils), if they are old enough to wear a mask. Pupils who are shielding (clinically extremely vulnerable) should not attend school.

All other pupils should wear face coverings if over 11 years old.

**Driver should wear a face covering.** Face coverings should be worn by everyone over 11 years old.

If driver is [clinically vulnerable](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/people-at-higher-risk-from-coronavirus/whos-at-higher-risk-from-coronavirus/) e.g. asthma, diabetes etc, line managers may determine what PPE is required as part of their health vulnerable risk assessment for that individual.

**Key Principles:**

1. Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds (or use alcohol gel that is 60% or above if hand washing facilities are not available) before and after every contact and every use of PPE.
2. PPE use in an educational setting is likely to be an extremely rare event, and therefore should be single use only.
3. PPE only provides protection if used appropriately - make sure you know how to put on and take off PPE safely. Photo instructions found [here.](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-personal-protective-equipment-use-for-non-aerosol-generating-procedures)
4. Used PPE and any other waste generated from the care of a possible or confirmed COVID-19 case should be disposed of in double sealed plastic waste bags, stored in a secure place for 72 hours, then put into normal waste collection service. PPE used when in contact with non-symptomatic pupils should be disposed of immediately in your clinical waste provisions.

1. A possible or confirmed COVID-19 case is someone who has developed a new continuous cough and/or high temperature in the last 10 days, even if those symptoms have now disappeared, OR a household contact of someone who developed those symptoms in the last 10 days, regardless of how they are feeling.

2. The full list of those who qualify as clinically extremely vulnerable can be found [here](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19). It includes people who have had organ transplants, cancer sufferers, those with respiratory conditions including cystic fibrosis and severe asthma etc. Information on who is clinically vulnerable (moderate risk but not shielding) can be [found here](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/people-at-higher-risk-from-coronavirus/whos-at-higher-risk-from-coronavirus/).

3. If a child become symptomatic during school, their parent/guardian should collect them as soon as possible. Where this is not an option, or it would mean the child would travel home via pubic transport (with the parent), using school transport should be considered. When transporting home, the symptomatic pupil should be the only pupil in the vehicle.

**Measures to take on Transport**

1. Children and young people aged 11 and over should wear a face covering when travelling on dedicated transport to secondary school or college.
2. Ensure good hygiene for everyone
   1. Wash hands or use hand sanitiser before and after every journey
   2. The ‘catch it, bin it, kill it’ approach continues to be very important
3. You should put in place and maintain an appropriate cleaning schedule with a particular focus on frequently touched surfaces
4. It is important to ensure vehicles are well ventilated when occupied, particularly by opening windows and ceiling vents. You should balance the need for increased ventilation while maintaining a comfortable temperature.
5. Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19

**How close contacts may be identified on transport**

A risk assessment may be undertaken to determine this, but a close contact can be anyone who:

* lives in the same household as someone with coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms or who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19)
* has had any of the following types of contact with someone who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) with a PCR or LFD test:
  + face-to-face contact including being coughed on or having a face-to-face conversation within 1 metre
  + been within 1 metre for 1 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 1 day)
  + travelled in the same vehicle or a plane

If someone who uses transport tests positive, the assessment is likely to take account of factors such as:

* vehicle size
* degree of face-to-face contact
* length of time in close proximity
* whether a Perspex screen is in place

From Monday 16 August, people who are double vaccinated or aged under 18 years and six months will no longer be legally required to self-isolate if they are identified as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case. NHS Test and Trace will contact you to let you know that you have been identified as a contact and check whether you are legally required to self-isolate. . [Twice-weekly testing](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff) is now available to adults working in the wider school community: This includes drivers and passenger assistants on school transport and is recommended by SBC

**Face coverings**

Transparent face coverings which may assist communication with someone who relies on lip reading, clear sound or facial expression to communicate can also be worn. However it must be noted that there is currently very limited evidence regarding the effectiveness or safety of transparent face coverings, but they may be effective in reducing the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

Face visors or shields can be worn by those exempt from wearing a face covering but they are not an equivalent alternative in terms of source control of virus transmission. They may protect the wearer against droplet spread in specific circumstances but are unlikely to be effective in preventing the escape of smaller respiratory particles when used without an additional face covering**.**