# Coronavirus Health and Safety Checklist

**Implementing protective measures for out of school settings.**

## This checklist has been developed in conjunction with Protective measures for out-of-school settings during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak and will help out-of-school settings carry out risk assessments.

## Providers who run community activities, holiday clubs, after-school clubs, tuition and other out-of school provision for children can operate, subject to the science and with safety measures in place.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protective-measures-for-holiday-or-after-school-clubs-and-other-out-of-school-settings-for-children-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak?utm_source=bb73d91d-caec-4ed8-9c08-745baedba1c7&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily>

## From 4th January 2021 The UK national lockdown was announced. Colleges, primary and secondary schools will remain open only for vulnerable children and the children of critical workers. Community activities, holiday clubs, breakfast and after-school clubs, tuition and other out-of-school provision for children can operate for [children of critical workers and vulnerable children and young people](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision). Early years settings (including nurseries and childminders) remain open

## Some children who have difficulty engaging in remote education may be considered to be vulnerable children and therefore eligible to attend provision (for example due to a lack of devices or quiet space to study)The list of critical workers and vulnerable children examples can be found [here](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision?utm_source=4%20January%202021%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19) <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

## From 8 March, providers should only offer indoor and outdoor face-to-face provision to:

## vulnerable children and young people

## other children, where the provision is:

## reasonably necessary to enable their parents and carers to work, search for work, undertake education or training, or attend a medical appointment or address a medical need, or attend a support group

## being used by electively home educating parents as part of their arrangements for their child to receive a suitable full-time education

## being used as part of their efforts to obtain a regulated qualification, meet the entry requirements for an education institution, or to undertake exams and assessments

## From 29th March providers can offer the following provision:-:

## outdoor provision to all children, without restrictions on the purpose for which they may attend

## indoor provision to:

## vulnerable children and young people

## children on free school meals, where they are attending as part of the Department for Education’s holiday activities and food programme

## other children, where the provision is:

## reasonably necessary to enable their parents and carers to work, search for work, undertake education or training, or attend a medical appointment or address a medical need, or attend a support group

## being used by electively home educating parents as part of their arrangements for their child to receive a suitable full-time education

## being used as part of their efforts to obtain a regulated qualification, meet the entry requirements for an education institution, or to undertake exams and assessments

## From 12th April

Out-of-school settings and wraparound childcare providers can offer provision as normal

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| **Buildings** | **Tick if considered and complete** |
| **Measures to take**   * Has the school confirmed that all statutory compliance checks have been completed and the building is safe to open * Reviewed fire alarm procedures, for example assembly points. Staff are trained in fire procedures. * Heating and Ventilation   To balance the need for increased ventilation while maintaining a comfortable temperature, the following measures should be used as appropriate:   * + Where there is mechanical ventilation systems – these should be adjusted to increase the ventilation rate wherever possible, and checked to confirm that normal operation meets current guidance (if possible, systems should be adjusted to full fresh air or, if not, then systems should be operated as normal as long as they are within a single room and supplemented by an outdoor air supply)   + Where there is no mechanical ventilation:   + Open high level windows in preference to low level to reduce draughts   + Increase the ventilation while spaces are unoccupied (e.g. between classes, during break and lunch, when a room is unused)   + Rearrange furniture where possible to avoid direct drafts   + Provide flexibility to allow additional, suitable indoor clothing to be worn during the Winter period in addition to the school’s current uniform.  Where this occurs, schools should ensure that no extra financial pressure is placed on parents. * [Asymptomatic testing](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protective-measures-for-holiday-or-after-school-clubs-and-other-out-of-school-settings-for-children-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/protective-measures-for-out-of-school-settings-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak#asymptomatic-testing),   + The asymptomatic testing programme in education will also expand to staff in all private, voluntary and independent (PVI) nurseries, who will start to receive deliveries of Lateral Flow Device (LFD) home testing kits to offer to all their staff for twice weekly testing from next month.   + If operating on, or linked to, a school, including maintained nursery sites, then you should discuss with that school or nursery how your staff can access regular asymptomatic testing. Schools and nurseries should offer testing to all staff who are working in their settings including contractors or peripatetic staff. They should also offer testing to those supporting with wraparound childcare to children currently attending school, as well as other staff members such as clinical practitioners, therapists, other support staff, caterers and volunteers.   + Staff working in wraparound childcare, as critical workers, are also being prioritised for asymptomatic testing through local community testing programmes - more information id available at [Find out if your area offers rapid lateral flow test sites.](https://www.gov.uk/find-covid-19-lateral-flow-test-site)  From 31st March 2021 Confirmatory PCR tests Staff or pupils with a positive LFD test result must self-isolate in line with the stay-at-home guidance. They will also need to arrange a lab-based polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test to confirm the result. If the PCR test is taken within 2 days of the positive lateral flow test, and is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD test and the pupil can return to school. Those with a negative LFD test result can also continue to attend school and use protective measures. |  |
| **Indoor and Outdoor Provision** | |
| **Measures to take**   * identified how many pupils will be attending the provision * planned how children of critical workers and vulnerable children will be accommodated * agreed what support is available for vulnerable and/or disadvantaged children * agreed what safeguarding provision is needed * updated behaviour policies to reflect the new rules and routines * decided on the content and timing of staff communication * options available if staffing levels can’t be maintained |  |
| * identified what staff can return to work * agreed flexible working arrangements needed to support any changes to your usual patterns * staff workload expectations agreed * what staff training is needed to implement any changes the out of plans make (e.g. risk management, curriculum, behaviour, safeguarding * measures in place to check on staff well being * planned the likely mental health, pastoral or wider wellbeing support for children returning to school (e.g. bereavement support) * identified and planning to support high needs groups, including children with SEND, vulnerable children and disadvantaged children [https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus- covid-19-guidance-on-vulnerable-children-and-young-people](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-vulnerable-children-and-young-people)) * agreed the approach to any scheduled or ongoing building works * Parents and carers should be encouraged to limit the number of settings their child attends, ideally ensuring their child only attends the same setting consistently. This should also be the same for staff * At all local COVID alert levels, the expectation is that education and childcare provision should continue as normal. The tiers of restriction for education and childcare, summarised in Annex 3 of the [contain framework](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/containing-and-managing-local-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreaks/covid-19-contain-framework-a-guide-for-local-decision-makers#annex-3-tiers-of-national-restriction), work alongside the [local COVID alert level framework](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/local-covid-alert-levels-what-you-need-to-know). * Stay and play sessions, such as where the purpose is for parent and carers to meet each other, should not take place at the setting. * Make available wellbeing support for children and staff   + [MindEd learning platform for professionals](https://www.minded.org.uk/), which contains materials on peer support, stress, fear and trauma, and bereavement.   + MindEd have also developed a coronavirus (COVID-19) [staff resilience hub](https://covid.minded.org.uk/) with advice and tips for frontline staff.   + The Education Hub also has [mental health resources for parents, carers, children, and staff](https://dfemedia.blog.gov.uk/2021/02/01/mental-health-resources-for-children-parents-carers-and-school-staff/y) |  |
| **Group Sizes and Attendance** | |
| **Measures to take**   * Look at group sizes for your setting which should be based on:   + whether sessions are indoors or outdoors   + the current government guidance on social distancing   + the ability of the children in attendance to maintain social distancing and practise hand hygiene   + the age of the children in attendance   + nature of your activity or provision (for example, static, classroom set-up rather than an activity that requires a range of movement)   + the size or layout of your premises   + the ability to ventilate your premises effectively with fresh air * To reduce the risk of transmission within a setting, providers should aim to minimise the number of different people each child comes into contact with. Discuss this with parents and schools. * you should only group children from different schools together where it is absolutely necessary * where it is not possible to follow school day bubbles, you should ensure any children from the same school are kept together, and/or work with parents and carers to try and keep siblings together * each group or bubble should be supervised by at least one staff member   If you need to do this, you should seek to keep children in small, consistent groups of no more than 15 children with the same children each time, as far as this is possible (do not mix groups unless absolutely necessary) and have at least one staff member, depending on the type of provision or size of the group   * Considered the size and/or layout of the setting * Ability of children in attendance to maintain social distancing * Considered the age of the children in your groups * Considered the nature of the activity; static classroom or activity that requires a range of movement. * Children are assigned to a group and stay in those consistent groups for future sessions. For children at secondary school the emphasis is on social distancing rather than grouping or bubbles. * Have you considered how to manage “bubbles” including consideration of school “bubbles”   From 17 May 2021 where wraparound and other extra-curricular activities for children are taking place indoors, they will be able to take place in groups of any number. However, when considering appropriate group sizes, it will be important to take into account the factors outlined above, such as the recommended occupancy levels of the premises you are operating from and levels of ventilation. For example, the Providers of grassroots sport and sport facilities - working safely during coronavirus (COVID-19) guidance recommends that the maximum occupancy of an indoor facility should be limited by providing a minimum of 100sqft per person. Therefore, if you are operating from a premises which is not well-ventilated or in which it is difficult to maintain social distancing, you should have smaller group sizes (e.g. 15 children or fewer per group). |  |
| * Considered area dividers to keep children in different parts of the room * Considered floor markings to help assist staff keeping groups apart * Communal areas being managed to limit the amount of mixing between groups as much as possible * Identified staff who cannot return to out of school setting at this point (for example, those who are extremely clinically vulnerable or those who are clinically vulnerable or living with someone who is extremely clinically vulnerable and stringent social distancing cannot be adhered to on site) and how they can work from home (e.g. supporting remote education) ([https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on- shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from- covid-19](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19)) * Identified children who have been classed as clinically extremely vulnerable due to pre-existing medical conditions who have been advised to shield in the past. And are supported at home as much as possible   Clinically vulnerable (but not clinically extremely vulnerable) people are those considered to be at a higher risk of severe illness from coronavirus. Parents should follow medical advice if their child is in this category.  From 8th March 2021 Clinically Extremely Vulnerable are still being advised to shield.  Clinically vulnerable staff can attend work. While in the workplace, they should follow the system of controls to minimise the risks of transmission.  Clinically Extremely Vulnerable children should discuss with their doctor to obtain advice on whether they need to shield. Remember to considered staff who are pregnant (See below) **Shielding advice for the clinically extremely vulnerable to stop from April**In line with the government’s [COVID-19 Response - Spring 2021](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-response-spring-2021) roadmap published last month, those on the shielded patient list can begin to follow the national restrictions alongside the rest of the population, but are still advised to take extra precautions to keep themselves safe from COVID-19.Letters to patients with updated guidance will be arriving from today and over the next 2 weeks. These set out practical steps people can follow to reduce their risk of catching the virus, including continuing to maintain strict social distancing and to keep their overall social contacts at low levels, such as working from home where possible.The move follows the steady decrease in the number of COVID-19 cases and hospitalisations across the country for the last couple of weeks.Staff should continue to work from home where possible. However if they cannot work from home, a Health Vulnerability Risk assessment must be undertaken to determine if additional control measures are required, above the normal workplace measures. If staff have any concerns in respect of this information they should raise it with their line manager in the first instance.From 17th May 2021 guidance in relation to new variantsShielding is currently paused. Although the advice to shield has ended, clinically extremely vulnerable people must continue to follow the rules that are in place for everyone.We are also advising clinically extremely vulnerable people to continue to take extra precautions to protect themselves. You are advised to follow the practical steps described below to minimise your risk of exposure to the virus.You are encouraged to exercise caution when meeting friends and familyYou should continue to take the extra precautions set out in [this guidance](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_source=ddfed7af-231e-4469-bcc2-c7d8a3eef7d6&utm_content=immediately) even if you are fully vaccinated.Work from home where possible. If you are unable to work from home your manager is required to take steps to reduce the risk of exposure to COVID-19 in the workplace and should explain to you the measures they have put in place to keep you safe at work. The school should encourage regular testing as part of these measures. You may also want to consider how you get to and from work including if it is possible to avoid using public transport during rush hour. **Home Education**  Considered children who are Home Educated. All children who are electively home educated can attend out-of-school settings where the provision is being used by home educating parents as part of their arrangements for their child to receive a suitable full-time education. They can also use these settings for a limited set of other essential purposes and for any purpose from 12 April. Read [who can attend your setting](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protective-measures-for-holiday-or-after-school-clubs-and-other-out-of-school-settings-for-children-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/protective-measures-for-out-of-school-settings-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak#who-can-attend-your-setting) for more detail.  Shielding advice was paused nationally at midnight on 31 March. As of 1 April, all CEV children and young people can now attend wraparound childcare and out-of-school settings, where they are eligible to do so, unless they are one of the very small number of children or young people under paediatric or other specialist care and have been advised by their GP or clinician not to attend.  **Pregnant Women**  Pregnant women are considered ‘clinically vulnerable’ or in some cases ‘clinically extremely vulnerable’ to coronavirus (COVID-19) and therefore require special consideration as set out in the [guidance for pregnant employees](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-advice-for-pregnant-employees/coronavirus-covid-19-advice-for-pregnant-employees).  Employers should carry out a risk assessment to follow the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (MHSW). More information is available on [workplace risk assessment for vulnerable people](https://www.hse.gov.uk/coronavirus/working-safely/protect-people.htm).  Information contained in the [RCOG/RCM guidance on coronavirus (COVID-19) in pregnancy](https://www.rcog.org.uk/en/guidelines-research-services/guidelines/coronavirus-pregnancy/) should be used as the basis for a risk assessment.  Pregnant women of any gestation should not be required to continue working if this is not supported by the risk assessment.  Women who are 28 weeks pregnant and beyond, or are pregnant and have an underlying health condition that puts them at a greater risk of severe illness from coronavirus (COVID-19) at any gestation, should take a more precautionary approach. Employers should ensure pregnant women are able to adhere to any active national guidance on social distancing or advice for pregnant women considered to be clinically extremely vulnerable and should follow the relevant advice.  As of 23.4.21 Pregnant women should be offered a vaccination along with their age or risk group. Pfizer or Moderna are the preferred vaccine for women of any age. If they have already had the first does of a different vaccine they should continue with the same vaccine: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-women-of-childbearing-age-currently-pregnant-planning-a-pregnancy-or-breastfeeding/covid-19-vaccination-a-guide-for-women-of-childbearing-age-pregnant-planning-a-pregnancy-or-breastfeeding>  [Actions for early years and childcare providers during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures) |  |

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| * Desks spaced as far apart as possible * Rearrange classrooms with sitting positions 2 metres apart * Identify which parts of the school you’ll be using and close off   unused parts, to reduce the amount of cleaning needed. |  |

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| **Timetable** | |
| **Measures to take**   * Refresh timetable * Decide which activities will be delivered * Considered which activities could take place outdoors * Keep pupils at their desks, away from each other, for as much of the day as you can, ideally 2 metres (3 steps apart) * Risk assess options for delivering music, dance and drama lessons, For guidance use DCMS [working safely during coronavirus (COVID-19): performing arts.](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19/performing-arts)   From 17 May 2021, if planning an indoor or outdoor face-to-face performance in front of a live audience, you should follow the latest advice in the DCMS performing arts guidance, which provides details of how to manage audiences as well as carry out performing arts safely. If planning an outdoor performance you should also give particular consideration to the guidance on delivering outdoor events.  You may still wish to consider alternatives such as live streaming and recording performances, subject to the usual safeguarding considerations and parental permission.  Group singing can now take place.  From 12 April 2021, where the singing is to take place outdoors and:   * organised as 1 group - no more than 6 adults, including the group leader, should sing at any one time along with the children aged under 5 * the group is broken up into smaller groups of no more than 6 adults - the adults can sing together in each group along with the children aged under 5 and the same groups should be maintained for the duration of the session * Where singing is to take place indoors, no more than 6 adults in the room, including the group leader, should sing and singing should be limited to the same 6 adults for the duration of the group session. Good ventilation with fresh air should be maintained throughout the session.   Where singing is to take place indoors, no more than 6 adults in the room, including the group leader, should sing and singing should be limited to the same 6 adults for the duration of the group session. Good ventilation with fresh air should be maintained throughout the session.  From 17 May 2021, where singing is to take place outdoors, multiple groups of 30 attendees can take part. This limit includes children aged under 5, so where the parent and child group has more than a total of 30 attendees of all ages, they should divide into groups of 30 or less and remain in these groups for the duration of the session   * Consider what physical activity to include and how   + Pupils should be kept in consistent groups, sports equipment thoroughly cleaned between each use by different individual groups.   + Conduct outdoors where possible.   + maximising natural ventilation flows (through opening windows and doors or using air conditioning systems wherever possible) distancing between pupils and paying scrupulous attention to cleaning and hygiene.   + minimise interaction and mixing of pupils   Settings should refer to the following guidance:   * [guidance on the phased return of sport and recreation](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-phased-return-of-sport-and-recreation) and guidance from [Sport England](https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/coronavirus) for grassroot sport * advice from organisations such as the [Association for Physical Education](https://www.afpe.org.uk/physical-education/wp-content/uploads/COVID-19-Interpreting-the-Government-Guidance-in-a-PESSPA-Context-FINAL.pdf.) and the [Youth Sport Trust](https://www.youthsporttrust.org/coronavirus-support-schools) * guidance from Swim England on school swimming and water safety lessons available at [returning to pools guidance documents](https://www.swimming.org/swimengland/pool-return-guidance-documents/) * [using changing rooms safely](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19/providers-of-grassroots-sport-and-gym-leisure-facilities#section-6-4)   Until 8 March, the provision of sport should only be offered to vulnerable children and young people, and children of critical workers. From 8 March, Under-18 sport can take place at school as part of educational provision, or as part of wraparound care  **Educational Visits**  From 17 May 2021, in line with Step 3 of the Roadmap, out-of-school settings and wraparound childcare providers should undertake overnight stays or residential visits with children in groups of no more than 6 people or two households (including at least one member of staff). Annex B of [Protective measures for holiday or after-school clubs and other out-of-school settings for children during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protective-measures-for-holiday-or-after-school-clubs-and-other-out-of-school-settings-for-children-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_source=35050067-f8f4-4308-aff3-f795ca022680&utm_content=immediately) highlights additional measures out-of-school settings should put in place for residential visits or overnight stays.  At present international travel is not recommended. |  |

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| **Travel** | |
| **Measures to take**   * Encourage parents and children and young people to walk or cycle to their education setting where possible * Reduce travel any unnecessary travel on coaches, buses or public transport where possible   From 4th January 2021 The UK national lockdown was announced. Travel in or out of local areas should be avoided and you should reduce the number of journeys.   * Work with parents and carers to agree how best to manage any necessary journeys, for example, pick-ups and drop-offs at schools, to reduce the need for you to travel with groups of children. * If it is necessary for you to pick up or drop off a child at school, walking is preferable. If this is not practicable, then a private vehicle for single household use is preferable. * Stagger the beginning and end of the school day, so not all pupils enter and leave school at the same time using the same entrances and exits. * Discourage parents picking up their children from gathering at the school gates * Planned parents drop off and pick up protocols to minimise adult to adult contact |  |

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| **During the day** | |
| **Measures to take**   * Decided which lessons or activities can be delivered and are risk assessed in light of coronavirus * Children and young people are always in the same small groups each day * Different groups are not mixed during the days, or on subsequent days * The same member of staff and other staff are assigned to each group and, as far as possible, these stay the same during the day and on subsequent days * Can rooms be accessed directly from the outside * Considered a one- way circulation, or place a divider down the middle of the corridor to keep groups apart as they move through the setting where spaces are accessed by corridors (ensure fire risk assessment has been reviewed to ensure fire exit routes have not been comprised) * Stagger break times to ensure that all children are not moving around the setting at the same time to ensure that any corridors or circulation routes used have a limited numbers of pupils using them at any time * Stagger lunch times so fewer children are eating in the same area at once; if this cannot be achieved, children should be brought their lunch to their classrooms   If parents are coming to the setting to pick up free school meals:   * Stagger pick-up times so they’re not all coming in at once * If there’ll be a queue, set out 2-metre markers on the ground for them to stand on – use tapes or cones * Make soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitiser available to them as they pick up the meal   If you can, avoid letting parents into your setting, consider whether you can deliver the meal packages or take them outside to parents.   * Do you have additional support in place for children and young people to support them understanding the safety measures e.g. routes round the setting marked in braille or other meaningful symbols, and social stories to support them in understanding how to follow rules) * Ensured toilets do not become crowded by limiting the number of children, young people, staff who use the toilet facilities at one time * Stagger drop off and collection times * Cleaning regime in place to ensure play equipment used is appropriately cleaned between groups of children using it * Multiple groups do not use play equipment simultaneously * Removed soft furnishings e.g. pillows, bean bags and rugs, soft toys and toys that are hard to clean (those with intricate parts) * Outdoor play equipment should not be used unless you can ensure it is appropriately cleaned between groups of children and young people using it, and that multiple groups do not use it simultaneously. Ref to COVID 19 cleaning of non-health care settings ([https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid- 19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings)) * Can you use outside space for the following; Exercise and breaks   For outdoor education   * Can you use halls, dining areas, internal and external sports facilities for lunch and exercise for half capacity. * Can you limit the occupancy level for staff rooms and office staff * If you have lifts within your school, restrict access to one person using at a time, giving priority to users with mobility needs. * Limited the amount of shared resources that are taken home * Limited the exchange of take home resources between children, young people and staff * Can you prevent the sharing of stationary and other equipment where possible, if not materials and surfaces should be cleaned and disinfected more frequently * Practical activities – can equipment be cleaned thoroughly and the classroom or other learning environment is occupied by the same children or young people in one day, or properly cleaned between cohorts Note PHE have confirmed that supervised tooth brushing programmes may be re-established within settings using the dry brushing method For information on the cleaning and storage of toothbrushes and storage systems, see the [guidance for supervised tooth brushing programmes in early years and school settings](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-supervised-toothbrushing-programmes/covid-19-guidance-for-supervised-toothbrushing-programmes-in-early-years-and-school-settings) * Risk assessment in place for those children who may not be able to understand the need for social distancing and may also seek close interaction with their peers or adults to provide reassurance at a period of disruption to their routines. This should include limiting the number of children in each group and reducing this to provide more space in each classroom or learning area.   Water fountains are not to be used for public health reasons. Pupil should bring their own water bottles to school.   * **Contractors and visitors, do you have this in place;**   + From 20th December 20 Slough moved to Tier 4 visitors should be restricted to those that are absolutely necessary   + Prior to a visit make visitors are aware of:-     - the [system of controls](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures#system-of-controls-protective-measures)     - how this impacts them and their responsibilities during their visit     - how to maintain social distancing from staff, other visitors, and children other than those in their care   + Avoid visits where possible e.g. consider using virtual tours for prospective parents and carers   + guidance detailing social distancing and hygiene in place and explained to them on or before arrival with signage, visual aids and before arrival for example by phone, website or by email   + Limiting the number of visitors at any one time   + Limiting visitor times to a specific time window and restricting access to required visitors only   + Conduct visits out of hours   + Wear face coverings   + Reviewed entry and exit routes to minimise contact with other people   + Determining if schedules for essential services and contractor visits can be revised to reduce interaction and overlap between people for example, carrying out services at night.   + Revising visitor arrangements to ensure social distancing and hygiene e.g. cleaning pens, screens when signing in if they are being shared   + Considered instances where other suppliers and contractors may be in the setting, for example cleaners and site maintenance and how physical distancing and hygiene measures will be put in place and communicated.   + A record should be kept of all visitors which follows the [guidance on maintaining records of staff, customers and visitors to support NHS Test and Trace](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/maintaining-records-of-staff-customers-and-visitors-to-support-nhs-test-and-trace).   + Sessions in settings that use external providers, which are not directly required for children’s health and wellbeing, should be suspended   Considered a monitoring system and contingency plan to minimise the impact of shortages of supplies and workforce. |  |
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| **Protection and control of infections** | |
| **Measures to take**   * Staff and children who are unwell and have coronavirus symptoms, or who have someone in their household, does not attend your setting * Make sure everyone is washing their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds across the school day ([https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19- information-for-the-public](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public)) , particularly; * After coming into school * Before and after handling or eating food * After sneezing or coughing * After going to the toilet * Before and after staff hand out food packages, if that’s how you’re organising free school meals * Alcohol hand rub or sanitiser available if a sink is not nearby * Pupils and staff use tissues to catch sneezes and coughs and binning them afterwards, or using their elbow if they don’t have a tissue available and hands washed after binning tissue * Encouraged not to touch their mouth, eyes and nose * Help is available for children and young people who have trouble cleaning their hands independently * Have you considered the use of paper towels rather than using hand dryers? This is a recommendation. * Encourage young children to learn and practise these habits through games, songs and repetition * Bins for tissues are emptied throughout the day * Ability to prop doors open, where safe to do so (bearing in mind fire safety and safeguarding) to limit use of door handles and aid ventilation * When possible, open windows to increase air flow and ventilation * Please note that the NHS Covid-19 app is not recommended for under 16’s refer to the [guidance on the use of the app in schools and further education colleges](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/use-of-the-nhs-covid-19-app-in-schools-and-further-education-colleges/use-of-the-nhs-covid-19-app-in-schools-and-further-education-colleges) * Education settings are not expected to create NHS QR code posters for the provision of childcare, education or training in their settings as part of their normal day to day operations. However, schools need to assess any requirements if childcare is provided in a community centre, hosting an event with external guests, or premises are let out in the evening. For more guidance see the [Use of the NHS COVID-19 app in education and childcare settings](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/use-of-the-nhs-covid-19-app-in-schools-and-further-education-colleges?utm_source=a78cd9d2-11e0-4e84-805f-79f010d3adde&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate) |  |
| **Personal Protective Equipment** | |
| **Measures to take**  From 17 May 2021, face coverings will no longer be recommended for pupils and students in classrooms or communal areas in all schools. Face coverings will also no longer be recommended for staff in classrooms.  In all settings we continue to recommend that face coverings should be worn by staff and visitors in situations outside of classrooms where social distancing is not possible (for example, when moving around in corridors and communal areas).  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. 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.  There are exemptions to face coverings which apply to education and childcare and you should be sensitive to those needs. Examples include:-   * people who cannot put on, wear or remove a face covering because of a physical or mental illness or impairment or disability * where putting on, wearing or removing a face covering will cause severe distress * if speaking to or providing assistance to someone who relies on lip reading, clear sound or facial expression to communicate * to avoid harm or injury, or the risk of harm or injury, to yourself or others - including if it would negatively impact on your ability to exercise or participate in a strenuous activity   You should have a process for when face coverings are worn within your setting and how they should be removed. You should communicate this process clearly to staff and visitors and allow for adjustments to be made for those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) who may be distressed if required to remove a face covering against their wishes.   * + Safe wearing of face coverings includes: cleaning hands before and after touching face coverings – including to remove or put them on   + Safely store face coverings in individual, sealable plastic bags between use   + Not touching the front of face coverings during use or when removing them   Where a face covering becomes damp, it should not be worn, and the face covering should be replaced carefully. Staff may consider bringing a spare face covering to wear if their face covering becomes damp during the day.  The majority of staff in out of school settings will not require PPE beyond what they would normally need for their work, even if they are not always able to maintain a distance of 2 metres from others. PPE is only needed in a very small number of cases including:   * Children, young people and students whose care routinely already involves the use of PPE due to their intimate care, changing nappies and caring for babies should continue to receive their care in the same way, provided the child is not showing symptoms of coronavirus. This includes continuing to use the PPE you would normally wear in these situations, for example aprons and gloves. * If a child is shows symptoms, they should not attend a childcare setting and should be at home.   Please see the flowcharts at end of document to determine the PPE you will require;   * Can use your local supply chain to obtain PPE or; * Source PPE and cleaning products through The Crown Commercial Service (CCS) ‘Safer Working Supplies’ Portal (<https://www.crowncommercial.gov.uk/covid-19/covid-19-buyer-information/safer-working-supplies/>). * Where this is not possible, and there is an urgent need for PPE in order to operate safely, you may approach the [ppe@slough.gov.uk](mailto:%20ppe@slough.gov.uk%20) (refer to flowchart) * When wearing PPE, ensure staff adhere to correct procedures on putting on and taking off PPE. Photo instructions found here: [https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-personal- protective-equipment-use-for-non-aerosol-generating-procedures](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-personal-protective-equipment-use-for-non-aerosol-generating-procedures) * 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. |  |
| **General Safety** | |
| **Measures to take**   * Appropriate staff child ratios for your setting * Do you have at least one person with up to date Designated Safeguarding lead (DSL) training available to work * A deputy DSL to cover in the event of the DSL being unwell or unavailable * Caretaker/cleaning staff available to work * Volunteers supervised and under no circumstances left unsupervised if checks have not been carried out * Do you have enough trained first aiders * Review The Health and Safety Executive published guidance on [first aid during coronavirus (COVID-19)](https://www.hse.gov.uk/coronavirus/first-aid-and-medicals/first-aid-certificate-coronavirus.htm) * Will you have enough fire wardens * Fire drills to be conducted to ensure social distancing at assembly point * Updated all risk assessments and procedures to reflect the new measures and communicated these to staff * Identified medication requirements for pupils, checked medication is in date and ensured if it is available * Work on school being conducted and managed. Can it be delayed or carried out, out of hours? |  |

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| **Member of staff or child becomes unwell** | |
| **Measures to take**   * If anyone becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature they must be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 10 days and arrange to have a test to see if they Covid 19. This can be done by visiting NHS.UK (<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-an-antigen-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus>) to arrange or contact NHS 119 via telephone.   Fellow household members should self-isolate for 10 days.  Ensure you follow the procedures for both negative and positive tests  ([https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at- home-guidance](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance))   * Settings do not need to take children’s temperatures every morning or throughout the day. Public Health England’s guidance is that routine testing of an individual’s temperature is not a reliable method of identifying coronavirus. * Identified a room for a sick child until parents come to collect them, ideally with: * A door you can close * A window you can open for ventilation * A separate bathroom that can use (either attached to the room or nearby) * The bathroom should be cleaned and disinfected using standard cleaning products before being used by anyone else. * PPE should be worn by staff caring for the child while they await collection if a distance of 2 metres cannot be maintained (such as for a very young child or a child with complex needs) Refer to PPE Flowchart 038A. * Call 999 if they are seriously ill or injured or their life is at risk. Do not visit the GP, pharmacy, urgent care centre or a hospital   Make sure staff in school know that they should:   * Move pupils to this room if they are sick * Wash their hands for 20 seconds after making contact with the ill pupil |  |

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| Make sure you know:   * How to get in touch with the parents of children at school if they need to pick their child up * What to do in **exceptional** circumstances when a parent is unable to pick up their child. Any transport arranged should have one of the following:   + a vehicle with a bulkhead or partition that separates the driver and passenger   + the driver and passenger should maintain a distance of 2 metres from each other   + the driver should use PPE, and the passenger should wear a face covering if they are old enough and able to do so * If you need to contact social workers if the pupil is a vulnerable child |  |
| **What happens if there is a confirmed case of coronavirus** | |
| **Measures to take**  When a child, young person or staff member develops symptoms compatible with coronavirus, they should be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 10 days. Their fellow household members should self isolate for 10 days.  All staff and students who are attending an education or childcare setting will have access to a test if they display symptoms of coronavirus, and are encouraged to get tested. Please contact  <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-an-antigen-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus>) to arrange or contact NHS 119 via telephone. From 31st March 2021 Confirmatory PCR tests Staff or pupils with a positive LFD test result must self-isolate in line with the stay-at-home guidance. They will also need to arrange a lab-based polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test to confirm the result. If the PCR test is taken within 2 days of the positive lateral flow test, and is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD test and the pupil can return to school. Those with a negative LFD test result can also continue to attend school and use protective measures.  **Please ensure you follow the procedures on the FLOW CHART 038C** and the government guidance section [Actions for schools during the coronavirus outbreak](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak?utm_source=a7c948a4-4022-4554-9e7a-d1f44a7fed4c&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate) and document What to do if a pupil is displaying symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) |  |
| **Child, young person or staff member tests negative** | |
| **Measures to take**   * Child, young person or staff member can return to school and their fellow household members can end their self isolation. |  |
| **Child, young person or staff member tests positive** | |
| **Measures to take**   * The rest of their class or group within the education setting should be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 10 days. * The other household members of that wider class or group do not need to self isolate unless the child, young person or staff member they live with in that group subsequently develops symptoms. * **Refer to Cleaning if there’s been a suspected case in school**   **(below)** |  |
| **Manage confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19)** | |
| You must take swift action when you become aware that someone who has attended your setting is tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19). You should contact DfE coronavirus helpline on 0800 046 8687 and selecting option 1 for advice on the action to take in response to a positive case.. This team will also contact you directly if they become aware that someone who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) attended your setting – as identified by NHS Test and Trace.  The DfE will work with you in this situation to guide you through the actions you need to take. Based on the advice from the health protection team, you must send home those people who have been in close contact with the person who has tested positive, advising them to self-isolate for 10 days since they were last in close contact with that person when they were infectious. Close contact means:   * direct close contacts - face to face contact with an infected individual for any length of time, within 1 metre, including being coughed on, a face to face conversation, or unprotected physical contact (skin-to-skin) * proximity contacts - been within 2 metres of someone for more than 15 minutes (either as a one-off contact or added up together over 1 day with an infected individual * travelling in a small vehicle, like a car, with an infected person   The DfE will provide definitive advice on who must be sent home.  Please refer to:   * [PHE flowchart](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-initial-investigation-of-possible-cases) and * https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/918924/Symptomtic\_children\_action\_list\_SCHOOLS\_FINAL\_17-09.pdf   All cases should be notified to DfE, [CV19notifications@slough.gov.uk](file:///C:\Users\VSwift\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary%20Internet%20Files\Content.Outlook\SA8O8FJJ\CV19notifications@slough.gov.uk)  And [healthandsafety@slough.gov.uk](mailto:healthandsafety@slough.gov.uk)  The Department for Education (DfE) have published a list of actions that early years, schools and further education colleges must follow in the event that a child or young person displays symptoms or if they confirm they have tested positive for coronavirus.   * Action list for schools: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak> * Action list for early years and childcare providers: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures>   Action list for further education colleges: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-further-education-provision>  Ofsted has newly [published guidance](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tell-ofsted-if-you-have-a-covid-19-incident-at-your-childcare-business?utm_source=c676c9a3-9ff0-4291-a304-85dbab2b9d21&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily) on 11th November 20  Early Years providers, childminders and other day care providers must report to Ofsted;   * Any confirmed cases of COVID-19 (coronavirus) in the setting, either in children or staff * If the setting is advised to close as a result * This must be within 10 days of a confirmed positive test for COVID-19. * From January 2021, Ofsted will conduct assurance inspections under the Education Inspection Framework. The purpose of these inspections is to find out what it is like for children in their early years setting and to seek assurance that providers continue to meet registration requirements and remain suitable for registration on the early years register and, if applicable, the childcare register. * Ofsted plans to resume routine inspections for early years providers from the start of the summer term (April 2021). |  |
| **Contain any outbreak by following local health protection team advice** | |
| If your setting have two or more confirmed cases within 14 days, or an overall rise in sickness absence where coronavirus (COVID-19) is suspected, you may have an outbreak, and must continue to work with your DfE who will be able to advise if additional action is required.  Please refer to the [PHE flowchart](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-initial-investigation-of-possible-cases) and SBC FLOWCHART 038C PHE Suspected and Confirmed COVID Cases  All cases should be notified to [CV19notifications@slough.gov.uk](file:///C:\Users\VSwift\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary%20Internet%20Files\Content.Outlook\SA8O8FJJ\CV19notifications@slough.gov.uk) |  |

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| **Daily Cleaning** | |
| **Measures to take**  Have you got standard cleaning products such as detergents and bleach to disinfect touched objects and surfaces including;   * Classroom desks and tables * Bathroom facilities (including taps and flush buttons) * Food preparation areas * Dining areas * Table coverings * Door and window handles * Furniture * Light switches * Reception desks * Teaching and learning aids * Computer equipment (including keyboards and mouse) * Sports equipment * Toys * Books * Telephones * Fingerprint scanners * Can you remove rubbish daily and dispose of it safely   Laundered items e.g. towels, flannels and bedding is washed in line with guidance on cleaning in non-healthcare settings [https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19- decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings) |  |

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| **Cleaning if there’s been a suspected case in out-of-school setting** | |
| **Measures to take**  Clean and disinfect surfaces the person has come into contact with, including;   * Objects which are visibly contaminated with body fluids * All potentially contaminated high-contact areas (e.g. bathrooms, door handles, telephones, grab-rails in corridors and stairwells)   When cleaning hard surfaces and sanitary fittings, use either:   * Disposable cloths, or * Paper rolls and disposable mop heads When cleaning and disinfecting, use either: * A combined detergent/disinfectant solution at a dilution of 1,000 parts per million available chlorine * A household detergent, followed by a disinfectant with the same solution as above * An alternative disinfectant used in school, check and ensure it is effective against enveloped viruses * Avoid creating splashes and spray when cleaning Can make sure all cleaning staff: * Wear disposable gloves and apron * Wash their hands with soap and water once they remove their gloves and apron   If there’s a higher level of contamination (e.g. the individual has slept somewhere) or there’s visible contamination with body fluids, you might need to provide cleaning staff with a surgical mask or full face visor.  Contact Corporate Health and Safety for advice.   * Wash any possibly contaminated fabric items, like curtains and beddings, in a washing machine. * Clean and disinfect anything used for transporting these items with standard cleaning products. * Launder any possibly contaminated items on the hottest temperature the fabric will tolerate. * If items can’t be cleaned using detergents or laundering (e.g.   upholstered furniture), use steam cleaning.   * Dispose of any items that are heavily soiled or contaminated with bodily fluids. * Keep any waste from possible cases and cleaning of those areas (e.g. tissues, disposable cloths and mop heads) in a plastic rubbish bag and tie when full. * Place these bags in a suitable and secure place away from children and mark from storage.   Wait until you know the test results to take the waste out of storage.   * If the individual tests negative, put the bags in with the normal waste. * If the individual tests positive, then you’ll need a safe and secure place (away from children) where you can store waste for 72 hours.   If you don’t have a secure place, you’ll need to arrange a collection for ‘category B’ infectious waste from either your:   * Local waste collection authority (if they currently collect your waste) * Or, by specialist clinical waste contractor |  |
| **Local restrictions in educational settings** | |
| If there is extremely high prevalence of COVID-19 and existing measures have failed to reduce community transmission, measures affecting education and childcare may be necessary to reduce the overall number of social contacts in our communities and help protect the NHS.  Schools should not take any restrictive measures unless advised to do so by The Department for Education (DfE). The additional measures they may advise include introducing further testing and re-introducing face coverings in education settings.  Further information can be found in the guidance [Coronavirus (COVID-19) local restrictions in education and childcare settings](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-local-restrictions-in-education-and-childcare-settings?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_source=1e819c66-da3f-470d-9afb-9a2fd52b0600&utm_content=immediately) | |
| **Playgrounds** | |
| **Measures to take**  Can social distancing be maintained by   * Limiting the numbers * Providing timeslots for use * Limit seats or number of swings to maintain social distancing * Setting time limits * Setting an area to queue * For outdoor gyms introduce a one way system * Ensure outdoor gym equipment are 2m apart or 1m with mitigation   Ensure regular cleaning of high touch point areas;-   * playground equipment for children, usually up to age 14, such as slides monkey bars and climbing frames * semi enclosed playhouses or huts for small children * enclosed crawl through ‘tunnels’ or tube slides * exercise bars and machine handles on outdoor gym equipment * entry and exit points such as gates * seating areas such as benches and picnic tables * refuse areas/bins * use signs and posters * provide hand sanitiser gel * Advise children not to touch their faces, and to cough or sneeze into a tissue or arm when a tissue is not available * remind children not to put their mouths on equipment or their hands in their mouths * promote and remind users and staff of the need for social distancing * when communicating safety messages you should ensure you are able to reach those with hearing or vision impairments. Consideration should also be given on how to assist those with disabilities with complying with the changes * where practicable, providing hand sanitiser (automated where possible) or hand washing facilities at the entry and exit points   Consider children with additional needs. Issues likely to be specific to this group include:   * an understanding that many need frequent reminders about rules of behaviour in playground settings * changes to familiar environments are likely to require longer periods of adjustment * children with physical and sensory disabilities may need assistance with moving from one place to the next * some children with additional needs such as autism find it difficult to adjust to particular clothing requirements, and therefore may be less willing to use face coverings or similar if requested * some additional needs are not evident, such as hearing loss, and may therefore account for non-responsiveness to verbal instruction * queuing for apparatus or toilets can be a source of frustration, and the cause of agitation * at higher risk of being involved in bullying incidents   Keep staff safe. Staff roles may include:   * cleaning playground equipment/surrounding areas * managing queues of those waiting to use equipment * stewarding equipment to ensure users comply with rules made by the owner/operator * Face coverings should only be considered based upon the risk assessment conducted Note; The government is not recommending universal use of face coverings in early years education and care settings because the [system of controls](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures#system-of-controls-protective-measures), applicable to all education and childcare environments, provides additional mitigating measures. |  |

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| Version | Date Change | Changed by | Items |
| 9 | 14.1.21 | G.Watson – H&S Adviser | Updated with National Lockdown information |
| 10 | 2.02.2021 | G.Watson – H&S Adviser | Added details on Vulnerable children to include those who may have difficulty engaging with remote education at home (for example due to a lack of devices or quiet space to study)  Added information on mechanical ventilation |
| 11 | 3.03.21 | G.Watson – H&S Adviser | Added details on the return to schools from 8th March – including sports, CEV, group sizes face coverings and shielding  Added information on asymptomatic testing.  Added further transport information if parents are unable to pick up a child showing signs of COVID |
| 12 | 24.03.21 | G.Watson – H&S Adviser | Updated information to reflect shielding advice ending on 1st April 2021  PCR tests required following a positive LFT. |
| 13 | 20.04.21 | G.Watson – H&S Adviser | Added information on singing activities. Added information on visors and transparent face coverings  Exemptions to face coverings |
| 14 | 20.05.21 | G.Watson – H&S Adviser | Added information on educational visits and there no longer being a requirement to wear face coverings. Information on Education Hub and specialist staff. Performances. Visits to special schools. Local restrictions in educational settings |