Bishop Bronescombe C of E School

Covid-19
Spring 2 2021
Full Reopening Plan
from 8th March 2021

If you are unable to read this document in full, please call the office and we will be able to answer any queries.

Please note that the information detailed here is subject to change should

Dear Parent/Carer,

The purpose of this document is to publish the school's 'full reopening plan' providing information about how Bishop Bronescombe CofE School will open to all pupils in all year groups from the 8th March 2021, following the most recent national lockdown due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

This plan links specifically to Schools coronavirus (COVID-19) operational guidance (published Feb 2021) and specific wording from this document is included in italics for your reference. The plan and related risk assessments have been approved by our CEO, Stuart Renshaw; they remain live documents and continually under review.

As you are aware, the government made the decision to close schools to all pupils except key worker and vulnerable children with the aim of reducing the transmission of coronavirus. From the Monday, 8th March, attendance at primary schools will become compulsory for all children in all year groups.

Before looking at school arrangements for full reopening, I would like to acknowledge the combined efforts of the whole school community. This was yet another period of absence for many children with little warning; we thank parents for prioritising children's engagement in home-learning, especially those 'juggling' additional work commitments and staff for providing a robust remote education offer, including thorough feedback and support, whilst facilitating a 'full school day' for key worker and vulnerable pupils attending school.

This plan details how we will meet the new DfE operational guidance for schools, and draws on previous experiences of what worked well during the autumn term. In essence, there is little operational change from what was in place during the autumn term. However, we do ask that you read this guidance carefully as a reminder of what is in place and the role you and your child play in keeping our school community as safe as possible. In addition, please note there are changes to the start and finish times for Reception classes, which has been put in place to facilitate safer staggered arrival and departure times whilst ensuring we deliver as best an educational provision as possible.

Although this is intended to be the final school plan, advice remains subject to change. Should this be the case, an amended document will be sent with all adaptions to your primary email address, through ClassDojo and a reminder by notification of the change via text message.

We are very much looking forward to getting everyone back and resuming as normal a school experience as possible.

With kind regards,

Debbie Carmichael
Head of School

	Contents (click the blue links to navigate)	Page number
	Attendance	4
	Anxiety about returning to school	5
	Staff and classrooms	5
	School timings	6
	Arrangements for drop-off and collection	7/8
	Break/lunchtimes	9
	Behaviour	10
	Staff deployment	11
	Social distancing	12
	Classroom environments	12
	Children's resources	13
	PE/swimming	13
	Wraparound Care (Breakfast and After School Clubs	14
	School visitors	15
	Curriculum	16
	Catch-up support funding	16
	Contingency plans and remote education	17
	School uniform	18
	Cleaning and hygiene	19
	Symptom response	20
	Positive test response and asymptomatic testing	21

Attendance

This guidance is now being changed and, from Monday, 8th March, attendance for children from Reception to year 6 is compulsory.

"School attendance will be mandatory for all pupils from 8 March.

The usual rules on school attendance apply, including:

• parents' duty to secure their child's regular attendance at school (where the child is a registered pupil at school and they are of compulsory school age)

• the ability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities' codes of conduct"

Attendance for pupils who are shielding

"We know from growing evidence that many children identified at the start of the pandemic as clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) are not at increased risk of serious outcomes from coronavirus (COVID -19) and children are gradually being removed from the shielding patient list (SPL) as appropriate, following review with a clinician."

Children who remain under the care of a specialist health professional should discuss their care before returning to school and any specific medical information impacting their attendance should be emailed to: bishopbronescombe.secretary@celticcross.education

Authorised Absences

"A small number of pupils will still be unable to attend in line with public health advice to self-isolate because they:

• have symptoms or have had a positive test result

• live with someone who has symptoms or has tested positive and are a household contact

• are a close contact of someone who has coronavirus (COVID-19)"

Alongside authorised absence relating to our current school policy, absences will be authorised if Public Health England (PHE) advice recommends non-attendance at school. This medical advice could include:

- Self-isolation
- Covid-19 symptoms
- Positive test result
- Localised lockdown

Should this be the case for an individual/group of individuals/bubble, or the whole school, we will immediately switch to our Remote Education Plan via Class Dojo. Details of this can be found on our website by clicking here.

Click to return to contents

Pupils and families who are anxious about returning to school

It is understandable, and to be expected, that children and families will be anxious, nervous or reluctant about a return to school for a variety of different reasons. Senior Leaders and teachers have been in touch with a number of families who may be anxious about the return in order to reassure and plan to make the transition as smooth as possible. If you feel you or your child needs extra support, please ensure you complete our Return to School survey here or call our office on 01726 64322 or contact your child's class teacher via Class Dojo.

"It is likely that some pupils, parents and households may be reluctant or anxious about attending school... Discuss any concerns with parents and provide reassurance on the measures you are putting in place to reduce any risks. Remind parents that pupils of compulsory school age must be in school unless a statutory reason applies."

Staff and Classrooms

All children are placed into class 'bubbles' as in the Autumn Term. These strict bubbles enable us to take appropriate action, in line with DfE and Public Health England Guidance, should the need arise.

"Consistent groups reduce the risk of transmission by limiting the number of pupils and staff in contact with each other to only those within the group. Maintaining distinct groups or 'bubbles' that do not mix makes it quicker and easier in the event of a positive case to identify those who may need to self-isolate and to keep that number as small as possible….All teachers and other staff can operate across different classes and year groups to facilitate the delivery of the timetable and specialist provision. "

BBeebies Nursery	Mrs Hawk-Vango Daisy, Chloe and Beth
Rainbows Reception	Miss Oliver Miss Franklin
Stars Reception	Miss Burr Mrs Jackson & Miss Routledge
Little Doves Year 1	Mr Deadman Mrs Cunningham
Little Fish Year 1/2	Miss Jane & Mrs Horwell Mrs Slade & Mrs Biggers
Little Lambs Year 2	Mrs Lowe Mrs Pascoe & Mrs Allen-Trevarton

Pelicans Year 3	Mr Nicholas Mrs Carnell
Peacocks Year 3/4	Miss Nagy Miss Freight
Phoenix Year 4	Mr Hobbs &Mr Keyes Mrs Manton & Miss Briden
Angels Year 5	Miss Edney Mrs Provis & Miss Dwan
Faith Year 5/6	Miss Moore Mrs Warne
Hope Year 6	Miss Mewton Miss Roworth

"Younger pupils and those with complex needs will not be able to maintain social distancing and it is acceptable for them not to distance within their group."

Click to return to contents

School Timings

"Consider staggered starts or adjusting start and finish times to keep groups apart as they arrive and leave. Staggered start and finish times should not reduce the amount of overall teaching time."

Parent Arrangements for Drop Off and Collection

Parents and carers are requested to wear face coverings when on and around the school site and follow national guidance for the wearing and storage of masks. Primary pupils are not required to wear face coverings.

Drop-off times and locations

	EYFS	KS1	Main car park
8.30	Nursery / Stars	Doves	Pelicans
8.45	Rainbows	Fish	Hope
9.00		Lambs & Angels	Phoenix
9.15		Peacocks	Faith
12.15	Nursery		

Please note revised drop-off and collection times for EYFS classes.

Siblings
To limit the impact on families with multiple children and to reduce the number of people waiting around the school, siblings may be dropped off at the earlier time. Where a class is not due to start lessons, early morning reading and maths activities will be provided until lessons start.

The sibling due to start later can be dropped off at their designated entry point at the same time, ie if you have two children, one in Doves and one in Faith, drop off the Faith child at the Main car park gate before proceeding to KS1 entry point with the Doves child.

Children in EYFS (Nursery, Stars and Rainbows) should be dropped off by their parent / carer at the allocated time at their classroom door.

Collection times and locations

	EYFS	KS1	Main car park
11.30	Nursery		
2.45	Stars	Doves	Pelicans
3.00	Rainbows	Fish	Hope
3.15	Nursery	Lambs & Angels	Phoenix
3.30		Peacocks	Faith

Siblings
Siblings in the earlier classes can stay with their class teacher until the sibling in the later class is due to be collected. All pupils to be collected from their designated class pick-up area.

Click to return to contents

Parent Arrangements for Drop Off and Pickup

KS1 entrance for Doves, Fish, Lambs, Angels and Peacocks

Please use the path that runs down to the KS1 playground and drop off your child next to the cycle shelter. Please follow the one way system to exit through Boldventure gate. If necessary, please queue using the markings on the walkways.



Go down sloped path.



Enter playground gates and drop off / collect.



Exit out Boldventure Gate.

Car park entrance for Pelicans, Hope, Phoenix and Faith

Please drop off your child at the entrance gate to the staff car park, nearest reception. Please do not enter the car park. If necessary, please queue using the markings on the walkways.



Drop off / collect at main car park gate.



Children will go with staff along back of school building to class.

"Schools should consider how to communicate this to parents and remind them about the process that has been agreed for drop off and collection, including that gathering at the school entrance and otherwise coming onto the site without an appointment is not allowed."

Click to return to contents

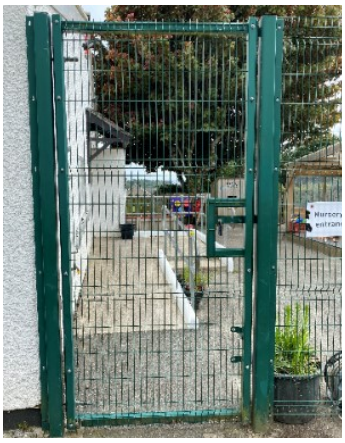
Parent Arrangements for Drop Off and Pickup

Entrance for Nursery, Rainbows and Stars

Please use the path that runs alongside nursery garden, down and drop off your child at the either Nursery garden gate for Nursery or the entrance door to Rainbows for Reception classes. Please follow the one way system to exit through car park gates. If necessary, please queue using the markings on the walkways.



Go down sloped path.



Nursery gate.



Reception door



Exit out main car park gate.

Click to return to contents

Break time/lunchtime timings

Break times

"Consider staggered break times and lunch times. Make sure you allow time for cleaning surfaces in the dining hall between groups."

"Both the approaches of separating groups and maintaining distance are not 'all or nothing' options and will still bring benefits, even if partially implemented."

Separate playtimes are set, in separate areas and/or times. Each class bubble continues to access a dedicated outdoor space to use each day. In case of wet weather, when pupils would not be able to access grassed areas, playground space is strictly timetabled to ensure classes do not mix at playtimes.

Lunchtimes

"We expect kitchens to be fully open and normal legal requirements will apply to the provision of food for pupils, including ensuring food meets the standards for school food in England. This includes for those eligible for:

- *benefits-related free school meals*
- *universal infant free school meals*

School kitchens should follow the guidance for food businesses on coronavirus (COVID-19). "

Our school kitchen will continue to provide hot meals for all pupils. YR and KS1 pupils will eat in separate times and or areas in the hall, maintaining appropriate social distancing, whilst KS2 children will have their meals delivered to them in 'flight trays' . The menu is viewable on ParentPay and parents should continue to book via ParentPay. Universal free school meals for children in KS1 and free school meals will continue to be provided free of charge through booking.

Pupils must bring in their own water bottles, which should be taken home daily to be cleaned.

Pupils will wash their hands before and after eating.

REMINDER: we are a 'nut-free' school so any products containing nuts are not permitted.

Click to return to contents

Behaviour

"Your policies should set clear, reasonable and proportionate expectations of pupil behaviour."
"Set out clearly the consequences for poor behaviour and deliberately breaking the rules. You should also set out how you will enforce those rules including any sanctions, especially for any restrictions on movement within school and new hygiene rules."

In preparation for our wider opening to certain groups in June 2020, our behaviour policy was reviewed, encompassing new 'Rules for Health'. These rules are displayed throughout the school and will be explained to all children upon their return on 8th March. They are important to follow and consequences will be utilised if a child deliberately contravenes these rules.

You can read our revised Behaviour Policy in full on our website. Please click here
It would be very helpful if parents can reiterate these rules with their children prior to their return.



"Lack of routine, and classroom discipline may contribute to disengagement for some pupils returning to school. This could result in an increase in poor behaviour. Consider what sanctions or consequences are appropriate for poor behaviour and whether additional support should be put in place for these pupils . "

Our staff have been trained in understanding the varying anxieties and traumas children may have experienced and ways in which to support these needs. In addition, staff have received further training in Emotion Coaching and a Draw and Talk intervention. We will continue to ensure we provide opportunities for children to talk about their feelings and experiences. Our team of TIS (Trauma Informed Schools) practitioners and our PSA will also support pupils and families.

Click to return to contents

Staff deployment

"Supply staff and other temporary or peripatetic staff can move between schools. Such staff and visitors must follow your school's arrangements for managing and minimising risk based on the system of controls. "

"All teachers and other staff can operate across different classes and year groups to facilitate the delivery of the timetable and specialist provision. Where staff need to move between groups, they should try and keep their distance from pupils and other staff as much as they can, ideally 2 metres from other adults. "

Each bubble/class has it's own allocated teacher and teaching assistant. At times, TAs will be deployed to cover classes for teacher PPA time (1 afternoon per week). However, where possible, the class TA will cover. These staff members will be particularly careful to adhere to the recommended 2m social distancing.

Our cover TAs are:
Mrs Herring, Miss Franklin, Miss Cunningham, Mrs Slade, Mrs Pascoe, Mrs Manton, Miss Freight and Mrs Warne.

At times, our TAs may work with small groups of children from another class for intervention work or similar. They will pay particular attention to keep to 2m distance where possible and wash hands before and after the session.

Click to return to contents

Social Distancing

“”Minimising contacts and mixing between people reduces transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19). This is important in all contexts, and you must consider how to implement this. You must do everything possible to minimise contacts and mixing while delivering a broad and balanced curriculum. The overarching principle to apply is reducing the number of contacts between pupils and staff. This can be achieved through keeping groups separate (in ‘bubbles’) and through maintaining distance between individuals.”
“Consistent groups reduce the risk of transmission by limiting the number of pupils and staff in contact with each other to only those within the group. “
“Maintaining distinct groups or ‘bubbles’ that do not mix makes it quicker and easier in the event of a positive case to identify those who may need to self-isolate and to keep that number as small as possible.”
“Younger pupils and those with complex needs will not be able to maintain social distancing and it is acceptable for them not to distance within their group.”

Children will be kept in their ‘bubbles’ and will not mix with children from other bubbles.
We will discourage physical contact for children in KS2; however, we recognise that social distancing for young children and within bubbles is unrealistic.
We will ensure that children maintain social distancing from pupils from other bubbles. When teaching of pupils from different bubbles takes place, for instance in intervention groups, pupils will be seated at a 2m distance.

Staff must maintain 2m social distancing with other adults in the school and aim to maintain the same distance, wherever possible, with children. We understand that this is not always possible and there may be instances where they will need to support children and ‘break’ 2m distance. They should keep contact within 1m to a minimum and for short times. If staff are deployed in a different bubble, they will maintain a 2m distance from other staff and pupils in that bubble.

“In primary schools, we recommend that face coverings should be worn by staff and adult visitors in situations where social distancing between adults is not possible (for example, when moving around in corridors and communal areas). Children in primary school do not need to wear a face covering.

Staff will wear face coverings where social distancing is difficult, in communal areas and corridors.

Classroom Environments

“You should make small adaptations to the classroom to support distancing where possible. That should include seating pupils side by side and facing forwards, rather than face-to-face or side on. “

Small changes will be made to classrooms to enable distancing between pupils and staff in KS2. Children will be seated side by side and facing forwards to front of the room. Children in KS1 will sit side by side when eating .

Click to return to contents

Resources

Frequently used equipment, such as pencils and pens will not be shared with other children. Other items may be shared between bubbles. Other resources will be cleaned after use before, or quarantined for 72 hours, before being used by another bubble. In addition, each bubble will have their own playtime equipment.

"Pupils should limit the amount of equipment they bring into school each day"

Children should bring their bags into school, if required, to enable them to store a lunchbox, water bottle, reading book/record and sun hat / sun cream only. No other items should be brought to school.

Toys are not permitted.

PE/Swimming

PE will continue within class bubbles.

Schools *"have the flexibility to decide how physical education, sport and physical activity will be provided while following the measures in your system of controls."*

"Pupils should be kept in consistent groups, sports equipment thoroughly cleaned between each use by different individual groups."

Outdoor PE will be the preferred option but some curricular PE will be taught in the hall, in which case children will be spaced well apart, side by side and windows fully opened. Children will be asked to wear their PE kits to school on days when PE is planned. Children can wear school jumpers and leggings/jogging trousers in addition to the usual t-shirt, shorts and plimsolls/trainers.

All classes have allocated outdoor spaces each day to allow for outdoor learning to take place regularly.

Swimming is not planned at present.

Click to return to contents

Wraparound Club

"You may keep pupils in their class groups for most of the classroom time, but also allow mixing in wider groups for:...wraparound care "

"From 8 March, you should work to resume all your before and after-school educational activities and wraparound childcare for your pupils, where this provision is necessary to support parents to work, attend education and access medical care, and is as part of pupil's wider education and training."

- We are only able to offer provision for small groups in Breakfast and After School Club.
- Children will spend the sessions in phase bubbles and will not mix with children from other bubbles.
- These sessions will run from the main hall.
- Children will be supervised by current Wraparound staff and will be provided with a range of activities.
- Sessions are strictly book and pay in advance only. No child can attend without a prior booking.
- Payments for sessions attended must be completed for each period. Any outstanding debts will result in the offer of wraparound provision being withdrawn.
- If a child is not collected after school, they will remain with their teacher and the parent called to collect. If this is repeated, we will refer to our safeguarding team.
- All children attending Breakfast club must be brought to main reception by a parent and wait for a member of staff to admit the child/ren.
- All children must be collected from main reception.
- We will provide a limited breakfast and cold snack service only.
- Children must follow the school's Rules for Life and Rules for Health. If they do not follow these rules, and their behaviour puts others at risk, their place may be at risk.
- Children will be asked to sanitise their hands before entering the provision, and wash hands before and after eating.
- Resources will not be shared between 'bubbles' and will be cleaned or quarantined for 72 hours after use.

Click to return to contents

School Visitors

"Schools should consider how to manage other visitors to the site, such as contractors, catering staff and deliveries, as well as cleaning staff on site who may be working throughout the school and across different groups. "

"Where visits can happen safely outside of school hours, they should. A record should be kept of all visitors"

Visitors

Visitors will be permitted for academic and pastoral support of pupils and must be pre-booked. All visitors must provide information for our track and trace records and adhere to social distancing, hygiene and mask-wearing procedures.

School Maintenance

School contractors will be permitted on the school site, preferably outside of school hours. Hand washing and physical distancing will be explained prior/on arrival to the school site. The school will keep contact information of all external visitors.

Parents

Parents will not be admitted on the school premises (unless this is an exceptional circumstance, where a telephone conversation/Zoom video call is not possible.

Extra Curricular Clubs

Excluding wraparound care, there will not be any extra curricular clubs until further notice. Future plans are to look at the possibility of clubs run by staff members within bubbles and external coaches/clubs in the summer term. Parents will be notified about this through the school newsletter.

"You can work with external coaches, clubs and organisations for curricular and extra-curricular activities. You must be satisfied that it is safe to do. "

Collective Worship

Ms Carmichael's weekly Collective Worship and Achievers' Collective Worship will be undertaken online. With current guidance in place, it will not be possible to have whole school collective worship so class teachers will lead class collective worship each day.

Click to return to contents

Curriculum

" • Education is not optional. All pupils receive a high-quality education that promotes their development and equips them with the knowledge and cultural capital they need to succeed in life.
• The curriculum remains broad and ambitious. All pupils continue to be taught a wide range of subjects, maintaining their choices for further study and employment. "

We will continue to offer a broad and balanced curriculum for all pupils. Priority will be placed on Reading, Writing and Maths with key content prioritised in all subjects and to address gaps in knowledge. Teachers will initially use informal and ongoing assessment to identify starting points and gaps.

Teaching staff will continue to teach through the school's 'Be Bold Curriculum' but focus reading and writing in the context of our planned topics. Maths will focus on ensuring likely missing content is covered and secure and with a renewed focus on recall of key number facts, such as times tables

"Some pupils may be experiencing a variety of emotions in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, such as anxiety, stress or low mood.

We will continue to prioritise the emotional well-being/mental health of children. Classes will prioritise time to re-engage with each other with social time and time to talk / collaborate in lessons. Opportunities for outdoor play and outdoor learning will be utilised as this promotes good mental health.

Re-establishing the school routine from the onset will also support emotional wellbeing as will be an understanding of behaviours which show anxiety or low mood and an appropriate response to this. This will include class check-in boards, time to talk, emotionally-available adults and social, emotional wellbeing interventions.

Catch-up Support Funding

"You will decide how the catch-up premium provided by Government is spent in your school"
"You should ensure that curriculum planning is informed both by an assessment of pupils' starting points and gaps in their knowledge, and an understanding of what is the most critical content for progression."

We will formally review our Catch-up Support funding plan once all pupils' needs have been formally assessed. We can then re-assess and prioritise the pupils that need extra support and how to best meet the needs of these children.

Click to return to contents

Contingency plans

"For individuals or groups of self-isolating pupils and pupils who are shielding following government guidance related to coronavirus (COVID-19), remote education plans should be in place.
You should continue to operate as normally as possible. In the event that restrictions in schools are needed to help contain the spread of the virus, you may be asked to revise your delivery models for a short period of time. "

In the event of a localised lockdown or bubble closure, Bishop Bronescombe School will follow the Remote Education plan as detailed here. In the event of another lockdown, we will follow government guidance and be prepared to operate provision for identified vulnerable children and key worker children only.

Remote Education will be provided for any child needing to self-isolate due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Click to return to contents

School Uniform

"We would encourage all schools to maintain their usual uniform policies. Uniform can play a valuable role in contributing to the ethos of a school and setting an appropriate tone.

Uniforms do not need to be cleaned:

- *more often than usual*
- *using different methods "*

Children should wear full school uniform as usual. Please note that there is a need to maintain good ventilation in school as this helps reduce the risk of transmission. It is therefore recommended that pupils wear an extra layer under their usual polo shirt and jumpers when the weather is cold.

"*Good ventilation reduces the concentration of the virus in the air, which reduces the risk from airborne transmission. This happens when people breathe in small particles (aerosols) in the air after someone with the virus has occupied and enclosed area.*

When your school is in operation, it is important to ensure it is well ventilated and a comfortable teaching environment is maintained."

If there are any personal circumstances that may impact the wearing of school uniform, please contact:

bishopbronescombe.secretary@celticcross.education

"Taking a mindful and considerate approach may help parents who have difficulty obtaining uniform items or are experiencing financial pressures"

Click to return to contents

Cleaning and Hygiene

Handwashing

Staff will explicitly remind children of health and hygiene arrangements such as handwashing, using hand sanitiser. tissue disposal and toilet flushing. Children will be asked to wash their hands with soap and dry them properly before eating, after toileting and after sneezing or coughing. At other times, hand sanitiser will be used. Help will be available for children who have trouble cleaning their hands independently. Your help in reminding children to wash their hands thoroughly for 20 seconds will be appreciated. All bubbles have allocated sinks and toilets but some can be shared in line with DfE guidance.

Hygiene Management

Each group will have their own cleaning materials that adults in the group can use to clean frequently-touched surfaces, such as IT equipment, learning resources, books, desks, chairs, doors, sinks, light switches, toilet flushes etc.
Children will be actively encouraged not to touch their mouth, eyes and noses. Children will regularly be reminded of 'catch it, bin it, kill it' procedures. All classroom are equipped with lidded, swing bins and these bins will be emptied every day.
All rooms will be well ventilated by opening windows and wherever possible doors will be propped open to aid ventilation and limit the use of door handles. Children will avoid using school corridors; they will use their allocated room and enter and exit this via their own external doors, if available. At the end of each day, each room will be thoroughly cleaned.

'Schools should ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.'

'Essential measures include robust hand and respiratory hygiene .'

Symptoms Response

Parents and carers must be ready to:

- book a test for their child if they are displaying symptoms; not come to school during that period of time and self isolate. If the test result is negative, they may return to the school and their period of self isolation ends.

Click Here for the test booking website or book by calling NHS 119.

- Inform the school of the test results (positive or negative) immediately.

Click to return to contents

Child/adult shows symptoms of Covid-19

If anyone becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough, a high temperature, or a loss of, or change in, normal sense or smell (anosmia), they will be sent home.

Any child that develops symptoms will be brought to main reception to await collection. Staff members developing symptoms will be sent home. If a child/adult is symptomatic outside of school hours they should remain at home and contact the school.

PPE will be worn by staff caring for the child while they await collection if direct personal care is needed and a suitable distance cannot be maintained (such as for a very young child or a child with complex needs).

In an emergency, the school will call 999 if a child is seriously ill or injured or their life is at risk.

Schools will not visit the GP, pharmacy, urgent care centre or a hospital.

The child/staff member should then follow the COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection, available in the link below.

School will contact Public Health to advise of a suspected case and to communicate results. PHE will provide the school with advise on further actions.

Click Here to access a coronavirus test.

All children will have access to a test if they display symptoms of coronavirus. If they develop symptoms, they should be tested. If they test negative, they can return to their setting and their fellow household members can end their self-isolation. If they test positive, education and childcare settings should follow guidance on implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings.

When a child or adult develops symptoms compatible with coronavirus, they should be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 10 days. Fellow household members should self-isolate for 10 days.

Click to return to contents

Child/Staff Member tests positive for Covid-19

Where a child or staff member tests positive, the rest of their bubble will be asked to stay at home and advised to self-isolate for 10 days. The other household members of that wider class/group do not need to self-isolate unless the child, young person or staff member they live with in that group subsequently develops symptoms.

As part of the national test and trace programme, if other cases are detected within the child or young person's cohort or in the wider education or childcare setting within 14 days, Public Health England's local Health Protection Teams will conduct a rapid investigation and will advise schools and other settings on the most appropriate action to take. In some cases, a larger number of other children and young people may be asked to self-isolate at home as a precautionary measure - perhaps the whole class, site or year group. Where settings are observing guidance on infection prevention and control, which will reduce risk of transmission, closure of the whole setting will not generally be necessary.

If a member of staff has helped someone who was unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, they do not need to go home unless they develop symptoms themselves. They should wash their hands thoroughly for 20 seconds after any contact with someone who is unwell. Cleaning the affected area with normal household disinfectant after someone with symptoms has left will reduce the risk of passing the infection on to other people.

Lateral Flow Device testing

This is an integral part to the return of face-to face teaching as the tests identify people that are infectious but do not display any symptoms. Staff are voluntarily entering into the programme of twice-weekly testing using the lateral flow devices. If a member of staff tests positive, all close contacts will be informed and advised to self-isolate for 10 days. They should not attend school during this time.

Primary pupils will not be asked to use these tests.

From Monday 1 March, households with primary school, secondary school and college age children, including childcare and support bubbles, can test themselves twice every week at home as schools return from Monday 8 March. Households, childcare and support bubbles of primary, secondary and college staff can also be tested. The twice-weekly test kits can be accessed via employers if they offer testing to employees , at a local test site by collecting a home test kit from a test site, by ordering a home test kit. We will not give test kits to parents, carers or household members.

Click to return to contents