

Covid 19 Contingency Plan 22nd October 2021

Introduction

The government has made it a national priority that education and childcare settings should continue to operate as normally as possible during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Measures affecting education and childcare may be necessary in some circumstances, for example:

- to help manage a COVID-19 outbreak within a setting
- as part of a package of measures responding to a variant of concern (VoC) or to the extremely high prevalence of COVID-19 in the community
- to prevent unsustainable pressure on the NHS

Roles and Responsibilities

- safeguarding - local agencies, services and settings should work together to actively look for signs of harm given the greater risk of harm that some children may have been exposed to through COVID-19
- supporting children's learning, development and wellbeing - continue to follow the [early years foundation stage \(EYFS\) statutory framework](#)
- supporting vulnerable children

Busikids will continue to ensure good hygiene for everyone, maintain appropriate cleaning regimes, keep occupied spaces well ventilated, and follow public health advice on testing and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.

If symptoms of Covid 19 occur, book a PCR test and isolate until the negative result – or if positive follow current guidance, isolate for 10 days or until temperature is normal, a cough / anosmia may still be present.

Under-18s, irrespective of their vaccination status, and double vaccinated adults will not need to self-isolate if they are a close contact of a positive case.

They will be strongly advised to take a PCR test and, if positive, will need to isolate.

18-year-olds will be treated in the same way as children until 6 months after their 18th birthday, to allow them the opportunity to get fully vaccinated

Local authorities, DsPH and HPTs are responsible for managing localised outbreaks. They play an important role in providing support and advice to education and childcare settings.

If any of these thresholds are reached:

- 5 children, pupils, students or staff, who are likely to have mixed closely, test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period
- 10% of children, pupils, students or staff who are likely to have mixed closely test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period

We will review and reinforce the testing, hygiene and ventilation measures already in place.

We would also consider:

- whether any activities could take place outdoors, including exercise, assemblies, or classes

- ways to improve ventilation indoors, where this would not significantly impact thermal comfort
- one-off enhanced cleaning focussing on touch points and any shared equipment

We may seek additional public health advice if concerned about transmission in the setting, by phoning the DfE helpline (0800 046 8687, option 1).

we will take advice from Local authority, including restrictions of movement between areas, restricting visitors indoors and recommend increased lateral flow testing to staff.

All settings should seek public health advice if a pupil, student, child or staff member is admitted to hospital with COVID-19.

They can do this by phoning the DfE helpline (0800 046 8687, option 1), or in line with other local arrangements.

Hospitalisation could indicate increased severity of illness or a new variant of concern. Settings may be offered public health support in managing risk assessments and communicating with staff and parents.