



APAT INFECTIOUS DISEASES COVID-19 STEP 4 – APRIL 2022

RISK ASSESSMENT - ALL PHASES

****22.04.22 UPDATE****

Information on the changes to the self-isolation period for individuals who test positive for COVID-19 Since Friday 22 1st April, the 7-day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 5 days. Adults with symptoms of a respiratory infection, and who have a high temperature or feel unwell, should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature. Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend. Adults with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 full days, which is when they are most infectious. For children and young people aged 18 and under, the advice is 3 full days.

Hazard/ Activity	Persons at Risk	Risk	Control measures in use	Residual risk rating H / M / L	Further Action Required	
					YES	NO
Awareness of policies and procedures	Staff Pupils Others	Inadequate information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All staff, parents, governors, visitors and volunteers are aware of all relevant policies and procedures. All staff have access to all relevant guidance and legislation including, but not limited to, the following: The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR) 2013 The Health Protection (Notification) Regulations 2010 Public Health England (PHE) (2017) 'Health protection in schools and other childcare facilities' 	MED		✓



			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DfE and PHE (2020) 'COVID-19: guidance for educational settings'• The relevant staff receive any necessary training that helps minimise the spread of infection, e.g. infection control training.• The school keeps up-to-date with advice issued by, but not limited to, the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DfE• NHS• Department for Health and Social Care• PHE• Staff are made aware of the school's infection control procedures in relation to coronavirus via email or staff meetings and contact the school as soon as possible if they believe they may have been exposed to coronavirus.• Parents are made aware of the school's infection control procedures in relation to coronavirus via letter and social media – they are informed that they must contact the school as soon as possible if they believe their child has been exposed to coronavirus.• Pupils are made aware of the need to tell a member of staff if they feel unwell.			
Disruption to the running of the school in cases of local outbreak	Staff Pupils Others	Infection control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If you have several confirmed cases within 14 days, you may have an outbreak.• You should call the dedicated advice service who will escalate the issue to your local health protection team where necessary and advise if any additional	MED		✓



			action is required, such as implementing elements of your outbreak management plan. You can reach them by calling the DfE helpline on 0800 046 8687 and selecting option 1 for advice on the action to take in response to a positive case			
Cleaning of school	Staff Pupils Others	Infection Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All hard surfaces to be cleaned on a regular basis, this will include<ul style="list-style-type: none">➢ All door handles➢ All tables and chairs used by staff and pupils➢ Toilet flushes and regular cleaning of toilets.• All classrooms to have spray disinfectant and where possible disposable cloths. If disposable cloths are not available use once and then put in wash.• Regular cleaning of surfaces will reduce the risk of spreading the virus.• All used cloths thrown away to be double bagged and then placed in a secure area i.e. lockable bin.	MED		✓
Ventilation class/office	Pupils Staff	Infection control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify any poorly ventilated spaces and take steps to improve fresh air flow• If mechanical ventilation systems are used to draw fresh air or extract air from a room these should be adjusted to increase the ventilation rate wherever possible• Ensure that mechanical ventilation systems only circulate fresh outside air and where this is not possible, in a single room supplement with an outdoor air supply	MED		✓



			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Where appropriate open external windows, internal doors and external doors to improve natural ventilation• If external doors are opened, ensure that they are not fire doors and are safe to do so			
Poor hygiene practice	Staff Pupils Others	Ill Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You should continue to ensure that children clean their hands regularly, this can be done with soap and water or hand sanitiser• Staff and visitors are encouraged to wash their hands with soap or alcohol-based sanitiser (that contains no less than 60% alcohol) and follow infection control procedures in accordance with the DfE and PHE's guidance.• Sufficient amounts of soap (or hand sanitiser where applicable), clean water and paper towels are supplied in all toilets and kitchen areas.• Pupils are supervised by staff where possible when washing their hands to ensure it is done correctly, where necessary.• Pupils are discouraged from sharing cutlery, cups or food.• All cutlery and cups are thoroughly cleaned before and after use.• Cleaners to carry out daily, thorough cleaning that follows national guidance and is compliant with the COSHH Policy and the Health and Safety Policy.• A senior member of staff arranges enhanced cleaning to be undertaken where required – advice	MED		✓



			about enhanced cleaning protocols is sought from the HPT/PHE			
Ventilation and Co2 levels	All site users	Risk of Covid-19 transmission through poor ventilation	<p>Schools are encouraged to follow Dfe advice to measure Co2 levels in classrooms with the installation of Co2 monitors, which have been distributed by the government along with guidance on how to use them.</p> <p>If levels are consistently above 800 ppm and ventilation cannot be improved, naturally or mechanically, then options include reducing the number of people in the room, reducing the time groups spend in the room or temporarily vacating the room.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Any areas identified as having levels of Co2 consistently above 800 ppm should be provided with supplement ventilation, such as a HEPA filtration unit. If this occurs schools need to contact the APAT central team and Sarah Young.	M		✓
Spread of infection	Staff Pupils Others	Lack of infection control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Spillages of bodily fluids, e.g. respiratory and nasal discharges, are cleaned up immediately in line with guidance, using PPE at all times.Parents are informed not to bring their children to school or on the school premises if they show signs of being unwell and believe they have been exposed to coronavirus.Staff and pupils do not return to school before the minimum recommended exclusion period (or the	MED		✓



			<p>'self-isolation' period) has passed, in line with national guidance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pupils who are unwell are not taken on school trips or permitted to enter public areas used for teaching, e.g. swimming pools.• Parents notify the school if their child has an impaired immune system or a medical condition that means they are vulnerable to infections.• The school in liaison with individuals' medical professionals where necessary, reviews the needs of pupils who are vulnerable to infections.• Any additional provisions for pupils who are vulnerable to infections are put in place by the headteacher, in liaison with the pupil's parents where necessary.• Staff encouraged to social distance			
Classroom management	Pupils Staff	Infection control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It is no longer required for forward facing tables etc however care should still be taken on table management in a classroom setting.• Outbreak management plans should cover the possibility of reintroduction of restrictions on mixing for a temporary period in case of local outbreak.• It would be sensible to revert back to previous control measures in the event of a local outbreak.• Continue to use a cautious approach with arrangements.	MED		✓



			<ul style="list-style-type: none">Staff encouraged to carry out daily check-ins with pupils at the start of the school day to ask if they have been feeling unwell with COVID-19 symptoms			
Singing and Parent and Child Groups	Pupils Staff Parents	Infection Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">There are no restrictions in place for singing in groups.Some activities, however, can increase the risk of catching or passing on COVID-19.Adapting in-service performances as recommended by PH to limit numbers or restrict live performances	MED		✓
Lunchtimes	Pupils Staff	Infection Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Lunchtime arrangements can revert back to previous arrangements.Tables must still be cleaned on a regular basis throughout dinner time activities.	MED		✓
Playtime and using equipment	Pupils Staff	Infection Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Previous playtimes and groups can be reinstated and no restrictions in place regarding using and sharing play equipment.	MED		✓
Personal Protective Equipment Face Coverings	Pupils Staff	Infection control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Face coverings are no longer mandatory for staff and visitors in communal areas or recommended in classrooms when moving aroundIt is the individual's choice or parental choice if they are worn in enclosed and crowded spaces where you may come into contact with people you don't normally meet. This includes public transport and dedicated transport to school."School will follow director of public health advice in cases of local outbreak.	MED		✓



			<ul style="list-style-type: none">Schools put into place any actions or precautions advised by their local HPT and in the case of an outbreak			
Ill Health	Staff Pupils Others	Coronavirus Symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Children with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or mild cough, who are otherwise well, can attend school.Children who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and where possible avoid contact with other people.Staff are informed of the symptoms of possible coronavirus infection, e.g. a cough, loss or change to sense of smell or taste and high temperature and are kept up-to-date with national guidance about the signs, symptoms and transmission of coronavirus.Any pupil or member of staff who displays signs of being unwell, such as having a cough, fever or a loss or change to their sense of smell or taste, and believes they have been exposed to coronavirus, is immediately taken out of the class and placed in an area where they will not come into contact with others and are supervised at all times.For pupils the relevant member of staff calls for emergency assistance immediately if pupils' symptoms worsen.The parents of unwell pupils are informed as soon as possible of the situation by a relevant member of staff.	MED		✓



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| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Where contact with a pupil's parents cannot be made, appropriate procedures are followed in accordance with those outlined in governmental guidance.• Unwell pupils who are waiting to go home are kept in an area where they can be at least two metres away from others.• Areas used by unwell staff and pupils who need to go home are appropriately cleaned once vacated, using a disinfectant and care to be taken when cleaning all hard surfaces.• If unwell pupils and staff are waiting to go home, they are instructed to use different toilets to the rest of the school to minimise the spread of infection.• Any pupils who display signs of infection are taken home immediately, or as soon as practicable, by their parents – the parents are advised to contact NHS 111 immediately or call 999 if the pupil becomes seriously ill or their life is at risk.• Any members of staff who display signs of infection are sent home immediately and are advised to contact NHS 111 immediately or call 999 if they become seriously ill or their life is at risk.• Any medication given to ease the unwell individual's symptoms, e.g. Paracetamol, is administered in accordance with the Administering Medications Policy. | | | |
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Poor management of infectious diseases	Staff Pupils Others	Lack of infection control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Staff are instructed to monitor themselves and others and look out for similar symptoms if a pupil or staff member has been sent home with suspected coronavirus.• Staff are vigilant and report concerns about their own, a colleague's or a pupil's symptoms to the Headteacher or SLT as soon as possible. .• The school is consistent in its approach to the management of suspected and confirmed cases of coronavirus.• The school is informed by pupils' parents when pupils return to school after having coronavirus – the school informs the relevant staff.• Staff inform the headteacher when they plan to return to work after having coronavirus.• A nominated person monitors the cleaning standards of school cleaning contractors and discusses any additional measures required with regards to managing the spread of coronavirus.	MED		✓
Lack of communication	Staff Pupils Others	Unsafe Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The school staff reports immediately to the headteacher about any cases of suspected coronavirus, even if they are unsure.• Schools put into place any actions or precautions advised by their local HPT.• Schools keep staff and parents adequately updated about any changes to infection control procedures as necessary.	MED		✓



			<ul style="list-style-type: none">School leader to send letter concerning first new case in a bubble/class following the APAT flow chart guidance.			
Asymptomatic testing	Pupils Staff	Infection control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">PHE has advised there are limited public health benefits attached to testing early years children with rapid lateral flow tests.Clear messaging and communications to encourage staff, visitors, students (year 7 and above), and their households to undertake twice-weekly lateral flow testing for people without symptoms. Tests are ordered by school and placed in Head's office MEDYoung children may find the rapid lateral flow testing process unpleasant and are unable to self-swab	MED		✓
Staff availability	All	Unsafe ratios of pupils/staff Mixing of year groups/infection control	<i>If operational challenges caused by workforce shortages in your setting make delivery of face-to-face teaching impossible, I would encourage you to consider ways to implement a flexible approach to learning. Flexible delivery involves utilising all your available teaching and non-teaching workforce to maximise on-site education for as many pupils as possible while you flexibly deliver provision either on-site or remotely to some pupils. This should only be on a short-term measure and settings should return to full-time in-person attendance for all pupils as soon as practicable. Resultantly staff can be utilised more flexibly to cover absences likely from Tuesday. To move to offsite provision, we would have to demonstrate that we could not move any staff member or regroup pupils to provide in person education.</i>	HIGH		



			<i>If considering this, please first discuss this with Sarah Young who will consult with the Trust leadership team and trustees.</i>			
Positive Cases	Pupils Staff	Infection control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If a child has a positive Covid test result they should try to stay at home and where possible avoid contact with other people for 3 days after they have taken a test.• Children who live with someone who has a positive Covid test result should continue to attend as normal.• Any staff who have tested positive should try to stay at home for 5 days from the day they took the test.• School no longer need to do contact tracing as close contacts will be identified via NHS Test and Trace.• School will support NHS Test and Trace when required to help identify close contacts From 16th August 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• From 16 August 2021, children under the age of 18 years old will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case.• Instead, children will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test.• We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so.• Continue to have a role in working with health protection teams in the case of a local outbreak. If	MED		✓



			<p>there is an outbreak in a setting or if central government offers the area an enhanced response package, a director of public health might advise a setting to temporarily reintroduce some control measures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Staff and children with a positive rapid lateral flow test result should self-isolate in line with the guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection.• If the PCR test is taken within 2 days of the positive rapid lateral flow test, and is negative, it overrides the rapid lateral flow test, and they can return to the setting, if the individual doesn't have COVID-19 symptoms.• SEE DFE 1/4/22 UPDATE			
Admitting children into school	Pupils Staff	Infection Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In most cases, parents and carers will agree that a pupil with symptoms should not attend the school, given the potential risk to others. If a parent or carer insists on a pupil attending your school, you can take the decision to refuse the pupil if, in your reasonable judgement, it is necessary to protect other pupils and staff from possible infection with COVID-19.• Children with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or mild cough, who are otherwise well, can attend school.• Your decision would need to be carefully considered in light of all the circumstances and current public health advice.	MED		✓



CEV children	Pupils Staff	Infection control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">All CEV children should attend their education setting unless they are one of the very small number of children under paediatric or other specialist care who have been advised by their GP or clinician not to attend	MED		✓
Staff CEV	Staff	Infection control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">CEV people are no longer advised to shield but may wish to take extra precautions to protect themselves and to follow the practical steps set out in the CEV guidance to minimise their risk of exposure to the virusStaff should attend their place of work if they cannot work from homeThe school will follow DHSC updated guidance	MED		✓
Risk assessment for pregnant employees	Pregnant staff members	Risk of Covid-19 transmission	<p>Working from home</p> <p>Office workers who can work from home should do so.</p> <p>The risks to female employees of childbearing age and, in particular, risks to new and expectant mothers must be assessed and pregnant staff are in the clinically vulnerable group. If a school is notified that an employee is pregnant, breastfeeding, or has given birth within the last 6 months, it should check the risk assessment to see if any new risks have arisen. There is Guidance for pregnant employees. Pregnant staff should only attend a workplace if the risk assessment states it is safe to do so. Women from 28 weeks gestation or with underlying health conditions such as pre-eclampsia, are at greater</p>	M		✓



			<p>risk if they catch Covid-19. It should be noted that heart disease (congenital or acquired) during pregnancy, is classed as clinically extremely vulnerable and will have been notified by Public Health England. The DfE recommends that schools follow the same principles for pregnant pupils. Guidance is available from the Royal College of Gynaecologists. Advice on COVID-19 vaccination: a guide for women of childbearing age, pregnant or breastfeeding is also available.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">•			
Educational visits	Pupils Staff	Financial risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If booking new visits ensure that the school have adequate financial protection in place• From the start of the Autumn school term you can go on international visits.• You should be aware that the travel list (and broader international travel policy) is subject to change and green list countries may be moved into amber or red.• The travel lists may change during a visit and you must comply with international travel legislation and should have contingency plans in place to account for these changes.• The school should have a contingency plan in place to account for any changes in the government travel list• Full risk assessments must be undertaken.	MED		✓
Transport and face coverings			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• School will follow director of public health advice in cases of local outbreak, alongside Trust direction.	MED		✓



			<ul style="list-style-type: none">Schools put into place any actions or precautions advised by their local HPT.			
Wraparound care	Pupils	Infection Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Consideration should be given to the latest government advice regarding the specific activity being undertaken and venue visitedChildren should be encouraged to attend settings close to where they live or go to school, ideally within walking or cycling distanceWhere they attend venues further afield they should follow latest guidance https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-travel-guidance-for-passengersWraparound childcare providers can offer provision to all children, without restriction on the reasons for which they may attendEnsure you have enough staff available to meet the required ratio	MED		✓
Out of school settings Parents attendance	Pupils Parents Staff Others	Infection Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Parents are no longer limited to specific number attendance but the school will consider where larger numbers are a risk and may adapt events accordingly.Ensure up to date contact information is available in the event of an emergency.	MED		✓