

COVID-19

Educational and Childcare Settings

Modified by London Borough of Bromley Public Health
from the original presentation delivered by the South West Health Protection Team

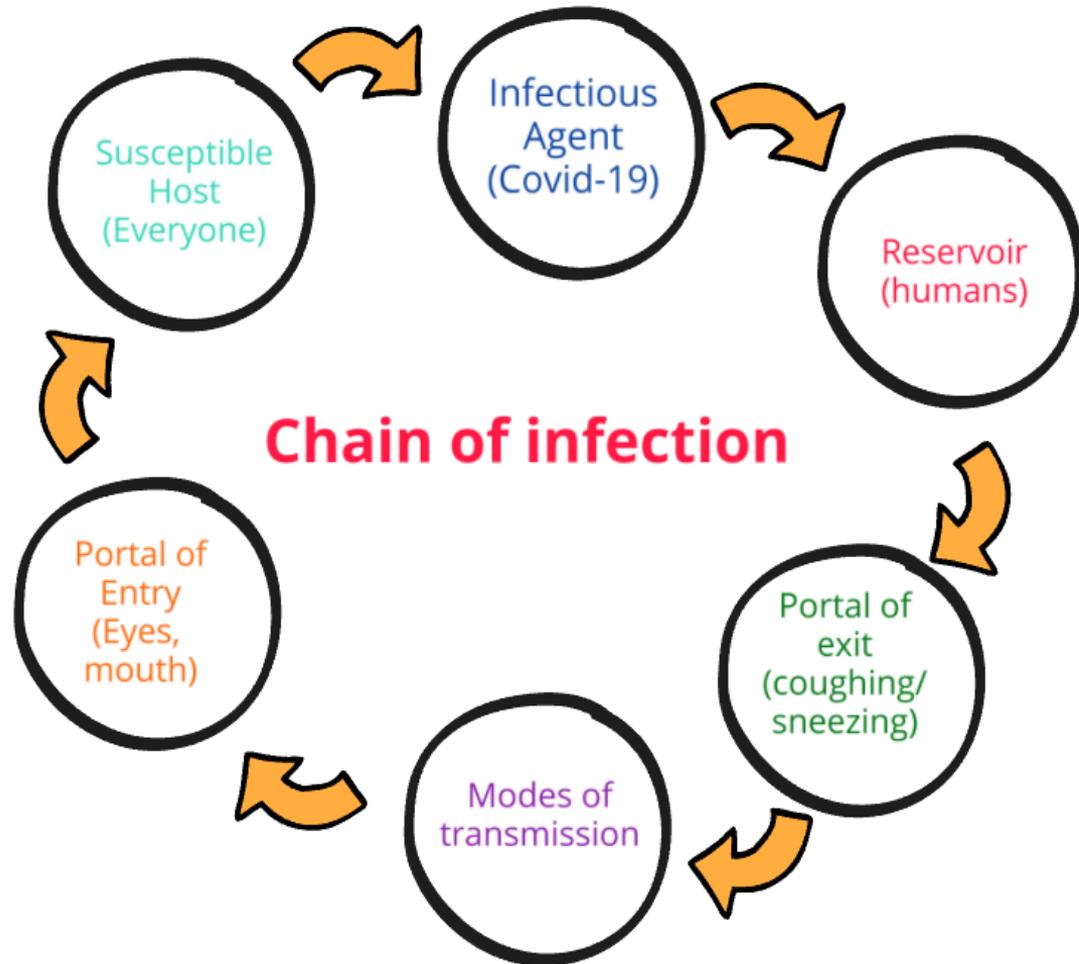
What we will cover today

- 1. Recap on infection prevention principles**
- 2. What to do if someone has COVID-19 symptoms**
- 3. Who should go to school?**
- 4. Scenarios**
- 5. Key resources**

1. Recap of infection prevention

Watch This!

- Breaking the chain of infection





All of these measures help to prevent the spread of infection and will therefore protect staff and children

Environment

Remove:

- Soft furnishing
- Toys that are hard to clean
e.g.
 - Sand trays
 - Play-doh



Principles

People with symptoms = possible case

Isolate- do not come to school!

Get tested- NHS portal/119



People with a positive test = confirmed case

Isolate the case

Contacts isolate for 14 days



Incubation Period =

**time between exposure to the virus and developing symptoms
= up to 14 days (most likely shorter)**



**Infectious period = from 48 hours prior to symptom onset (or date of swab) to
10 days after**

A few definitions!

Case (possible vs confirmed case)

COVID-19 Case Definition: (as of 18/05/20)• A high temperature• A new, continuous cough• A loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste

Contact

Direct close contacts: Face to face contact with a case for any length of time within 1m eg being coughed on, a face to face conversation, unprotected physical contact (skin to skin)
This includes exposure within 1 metre for 1 minute or longer

For educational settings, children and staff within the class and or bubble will fall into this category

Proximity contacts: Extended close contact (within 2m for more than 15 minutes) with a case
Travelled in a small vehicle with a case

Household of CONTACTS do not need to isolate

Outbreak

2 or more CONFIRMED cases in the same group or class

Cluster

2 or more confirmed cases amongst students or staff in a school/college within 14 days

PPE



Cleaners: gloves and aprons



Accompanying/ caring for suspected/ confirmed case: gloves, aprons, masks +/- eye protection



Risk assess need for eye protection: Splashes?
Coughing? Vomiting? Spitting?



Safe removal of PPE and thorough handwashing after removal

What if a child or staff member has COVID-19 symptoms?

Main symptoms



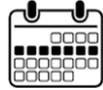
Cough



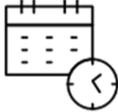
Fever

Anosmia: loss of or change in smell

Ageusia: loss of taste functions



- If yes, they should not attend school for 10 days from symptom onset



- If after 7 days they are well, and have not had a fever in the last 48 hours, they can return to school
- If not, they should continue to self-isolate until fever free for 48 hours

- **Get tested [here](#)**

Households need to stay in for 14 days

Other COVID-19 symptoms



Fatigue



Sore throat



Muscle pain



Headache



Shortness of breath
or chest tightness

Can a child or staff member go to school?



Have they been **Shielding**?

- If yes, clinically extremely vulnerable children should attend education settings in line with the wider [guidance on reopening of schools](#) and [guidance for full opening: special schools and other specialist settings](#)
- you should still try to keep your overall social interactions low



If children are **Clinically Extremely Vulnerable**

- The latest evidence indicates that the risk of serious illness for most children and young people is low. In the future, we expect fewer children and young people will be included on the shielded patient list.

Does someone in the child or staff members household have COVID-19 symptoms?

If yes,

- **Do not** attend school **until 14 days** after the household member became ill



What if someone in your Class or Bubble has symptoms of coronavirus?



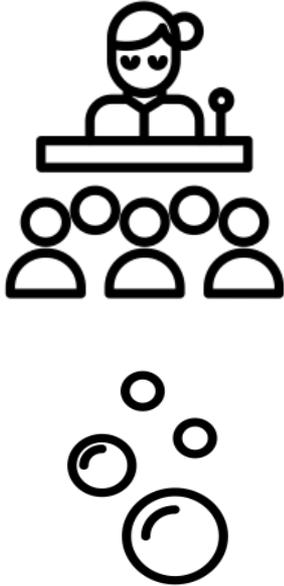
If someone has symptoms but no test result yet **“and”** they were in school when they were infectious :

- That person should not attend school for 10 days from symptom onset and should get tested
- Their household contacts need to stay in for 14 days
- The rest of the class or bubble do not need to isolate



People are infectious 2 days before to 10 days after their symptoms started
NB - if someone did not attend school during the days when they were infectious – no action is needed for the bubble and the case can attend school once 10 days have passed from onset.

What if someone in a Class or Bubble tested positive for COVID-19?



After a positive test,

- Everyone else in the class or bubble (contacts) **should not attend school for 14 days from the ill persons symptom onset**
- If contacts (in the bubble) are well, **their own household does not need to stay in for 14 days.**
- Contacts need to remain off school for the 14 days **even if they are tested and had a negative test result.**

SCENARIOS

Go to Scenarios slides

Communications and media handling

The process

- Local authority comms to lead on local comms - will receive regular updates from LCRC/PHE comms about cases and outbreaks in education settings.
- LA comms will always involve school staff in signing off any reactive statements they are working on (or the comms lead if a university or part of an academy) as well as LCRC/PHE comms.

Dealing with media approaches

- Schools **do not** need to speak to the media – please contact your LA comms team for support.
- If you do take a call from a journalist, avoid giving away too much detail or mentioning numbers of staff / pupils affected as this risks disclosing patient-identifiable information.
- If media persist in contacting you, either in person, via phone or email, then the best course of action is to look to the Police for support.

Academies

- If academies have their own comms teams, please make sure to link up with the LA and PHE comms team before issuing any statements.



Clinically vulnerable groups

Pregnant members of staff

<https://www.rcog.org.uk/globalassets/documents/guidelines/2020-08-10-occupational--health--advice--for--employers-and--pregnant-women-during-the-covid-19-pandemic.pdf>

Extremely clinically vulnerable

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19>

Black & Asian Staff

1.

The following are links to interesting BBC news reports

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/stories-53534125>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-bristol-52740586>

2.

Risk Assessment Document for Black and Asian Teachers to use

<https://www.bameednetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/BAMEed-Network-Schools-and-Covid-19-guidance-for-BAME-staff-and-their-employers-2.pdf>

available from <https://www.bameednetwork.com/resources/>

3.

And please check these links too from the same website

<https://schoolsweek.co.uk/coronavirus-significant-gap-in-advice-for-schools-to-protect-bame-staff/>

<https://www.tes.com/news/call-bame-teachers-get-priority-risk-assessments>

4.

This is from Scotland Education Trade Union. The Scottish Government is more proactive for their BAME teachers than England!

<https://www.eis.org.uk/Content/images/corona/BAME%20Members%20Guidance%20Covid.pdf>

Resources

NHS Resources and videos

-  [Handwashing for teachers](#)
-  [Handwashing for children](#)
-  [Coronavirus factsheet for kids](#)

eBug

<https://e-bug.eu/>

PHE webcasts for all professionals working in educational settings

- [Breaking the chain of infection](#)

Useful link on Masks

https://www.the-scientist.com/news-opinion/simple-tool-evaluates-mask-performance-at-blocking-droplets-67814?utm_campaign=TS_OTC_2020&utm_medium=email&_hsmi=93187775&_hsenc=p2ANqtz--dfRmeZzmTwJJ6Sxk7ktU6nIDTIPfwqCeTSP_M8L_OTYqcJ1E3k9JjsEJaDuIRafIJv70Wf8itdNcaUfdIUhqYJNCP4w&utm_content=93187775&utm_source=hs_email

Contact details

Please contact the London Coronavirus Response Cell
(LCRC): 0300 303 0450

LCRC@phe.gov.uk

or

phe.lcrc@nhs.net

Laundry

- Use the warmest water setting and dry items completely. Dirty laundry that has been in contact with an unwell person can be washed with other people's items.
- Do not shake dirty laundry, this minimises the possibility of dispersing virus through the air.
- Clean and disinfect anything used for transporting laundry with your usual products, in line with the cleaning guidance above.
- People dealing with laundry from a suspected/ confirmed case should wear gloves and aprons when handling the laundry

Waste

Waste from people with symptoms of COVID-19, waste from cleaning of areas where they have been (including disposable cloths and tissues):

- should be put in a plastic rubbish bag and tied when full
- the plastic bag should then be placed in a second bin bag and tied
- it should be put in a suitable and secure place and marked for storage for 72 hours. Waste should be stored safely and securely kept away from children
- You should not put your waste in communal waste areas until the waste has been stored for at least 72 hours. Storing for 72 hours saves unnecessary waste movements and minimises the risk to waste operatives

