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His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh 10 June 1921 to 9 April 2021

> Guidance for parents and carers of children attending out-of-school settings during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak

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Part of

Education, universities and childcare during coronavirus

Department

for Education

Read about the arrangements following The Duke of Edinburgh's death

→ Coronavirus (COVID-19) Rules, guidance and support

Guidance

during the coronavirus (COVID-19)

outbreak Updated 7 April 2021 Main changes to previous guidance Main changes to previous The main changes include:

• new guidance on test and trace support payments

children attending out-of-school settings

Guidance for parents and carers of

clubs and out-of-school activities Children with health concerns

vour child Parent attendance at extracurricular clubs, tuition and other out-of-school activities

Choosing after-school clubs

and out-of-school activities for

Protective measures Face coverings

Bubbles and group sizes Asymptomatic testing What to do if your child is

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Who this guidance is for

• after-school clubs

response - spring 2021

This guidance is for parents and carers of children who attend:

• updated advice on the <u>use of face coverings</u> in schools and out-of-school settings

• removing information on who can attend out-of-school settings prior to 29 March

• updated information to reflect the commencement of step 2 of the COVID-19

- holiday clubs tuition
- other out-of-school settings for children and young people aged 5 and over

Who can attend after-school clubs and out-

Out-of-school settings include:

of-school activities

• tuition and learning centres

supplementary schools

- extra-curricular clubs uniformed youth organisations - for example, Scouts, Guides and cadet forces
- The provider should follow the relevant protective measures guidance. Until 12 April, out-of-school settings and wraparound providers are able to offer outdoor
- vulnerable children and young people, under any circumstances
- being used by electively home educating parents as part of their arrangements for their child to receive a suitable full-time education • being used for the purposes of obtaining a regulated qualification, meeting the entry requirements for an education institution, or to undertake exams and

We will amend the relevant regulations to allow for each of these easing of restrictions to take place.

setting in addition to school, as far as possible

rather than taking public transport

vulnerable.

these current circumstances.

walking or cycling distance.

of step 3.

If your child is in one of the eligible groups and attends an out-of-school setting, the risk can be minimised by: • sending them to a provider that has coronavirus (COVID-19) protective measures in place • limiting the number of settings your child attends, ideally using one out-of-school

• working with providers to try to ensure your child is grouped with children from their

same school day bubble, and where this is not possible, ensuring they are grouped

 discouraging your child from mixing with different peer groups outside of the specific activity or group setting Children with health concerns

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. Children and young people whose parents or carers are clinically extremely vulnerable

can continue to go to out-of-school settings, where they are eligible to do so. Read the

If parents of children with significant risk factors are concerned, we recommend they

section on who can attend after school clubs and out-of-school activities.

discuss this with the provider. Parents and carers may continue to look to holiday clubs and out-of-school settings to offer respite childcare for children with special educational needs or with an education, health and care plan (EHCP). Further information on this is available in the guidance for

children's social care services. We have also asked providers to ensure that provision is

available and accessible to these children, as far as possible, and remains a priority in

Choosing after-school clubs and out-of-

school activities for your child

child if they test positive for coronavirus (COVID-19). Check with the provider that they have put in place protective measures to reduce the risk of infection before you send your child to a particular setting. For more information on choosing a setting for your child, please read the guidance for parents and carers on safeguarding children in out-of-school settings.

You should also keep a record of when your child attends a setting and where it is. This

is to help NHS Test and Trace identify people who may have been in contact with your

Protective measures The type of protective measures providers put in place will depend on their individual circumstances, such as:

minimising contact with individuals who are required to self-isolate by ensuring they

• ensuring face coverings are used in recommended circumstances - read the section

encouraging staff and children to clean their hands thoroughly and more often - soap

ensuring good respiratory hygiene for everyone by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill

on face coverings for detail on the circumstances where this is recommended

• the type of the activity they offer - for example, whether children will be moving

around rather than sitting at desks

the size and layout of their premises

do not attend the setting

it' approach

setting.

Face coverings

distancing cannot easily be maintained.

be confirmed with one week's notice.

not wear face coverings.

whether the activity is being held indoors or outdoors

or hand sanitiser should be readily available

• increased cleaning of toilets and washrooms

cleaning frequently touched surfaces more than usual

The key measures that every setting should have in place are:

 using social distancing to reduce contact and mixing between groups of children keeping children in the same bubbles they are in during the school day where possible, or otherwise in small, consistent groups keeping occupied spaces well ventilated promoting and engaging with the NHS Test and Trace process

In settings where children in year 7 and above are attending, we recommend that face coverings should be worn by staff and adults (including visitors) in situations where social distancing is not possible (for example when moving around in corridors and communal areas).

In settings where only children below year 7 are attending, we recommend that face

coverings should be worn by staff and adults (including visitors) in situations where

social distancing between adults is not possible (for example, when moving around in

Parents should ensure that their child brings a face covering to the setting where the

use of one is recommended, as the provider may not have a contingency supply

corridors and communal areas). Children in primary school (or of equivalent age) should

should keep children in small groups of no more than 15 children and at least one staff member; and where possible, with the same children each time they attend. We advise parents to work with providers to try and ensure their children are kept in consistent groups, ideally with children from their school, and in their school day bubble if possible; and to consider working with providers to keep siblings from the same household together (where relevant) to minimise mixing as far as possible.

If an activity is taking place outdoors, providers may keep children in groups of any size.

important for providers to ensure the groups are consistent, which means keeping the

This is because the risk of transmission is lower outdoors. However, it will still be

same children in the same group each time they attend as far as possible.

students and staff of schools and colleges: get rapid lateral flow tests'. The asymptomatic testing programmedoes not replace the current testing policy for those with symptoms.

- If your child tests positive, NHS Test and Trace will speak directly to those that have been in contact with your child to offer advice. Anyone contacted by NHS Test and Trace and told to self-isolate has a legal obligation
- from the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme. You will not be able to apply for financial support without this letter. When you apply to the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme because you need to

Your nursery, childminder or school should provide you with a template letter, detailing

your child's name and the dates of their isolation period. You will need to use this letter

as supporting evidence as part of your application to your local authority for a payment

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community activities

private language schools • religious settings offering education - for example, madrassahs, yeshivas and Sunday schools

- children on free school meals, where they are attending as part of the holiday activities and food programme
 - all other children, where the provision is one of the following: 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
- assessments
- From 12 April, in line with the commencement of step 2 of the COVID-19 response spring 2021, out-of-school settings and wraparound childcare providers can offer provision to all children, without restriction on the reasons for which they may attend.

with other children from their school or with any siblings from the same household taking practical steps to reduce the risk of your child coming in close contact with someone who has the virus, such as encouraging your child to walk or cycle to the setting, or having them dropped off by a member of your household in your private car

Shielding advice was paused nationally at midnight on 31 March. As of 1 April, all clinically extremely vulnerable children and young people can attend wraparound childcare and out-of-school settings where they are eligible to do so, unless they are

It is now known that very few children are clinically extremely vulnerable. Read the

latest guidance on shielding and protecting people who are clinically extremely

You should send your child to the same settings consistently and limit the number of settings they attend as far as possible, and ideally ensure they attend only one out-ofschool setting in addition to school. You should use settings local to your home or child's school, such as settings within

tuition and other out-of-school activities Parents and carers should not be allowed into the setting unless it is essential. It is particularly important during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak that you ensure the provider has your most up-to-date contact details in case of an emergency. Live performances of children's dance, music and drama should not take place at this time. The intention is that these will be permitted from step 3 of the roadmap (no earlier

than 17 May). This is subject to review and further guidance will be provided in advance

Parent attendance at extra-curricular clubs,

managing and reporting confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19)

Ask providers about any practicalities you need to be aware of such as collection and

drop-off times and whether your child should bring their own water bottle or food to the

Where there are children in year 7 (who were aged 11 on 31 August 2020) and above, we

premises, outside of classrooms, such as in corridors and communal areas where social

recommend that face coverings should be worn by children when moving around the

In addition, we also recommend that in those settings, face coverings should be worn

by adults and children in classrooms or during activities unless social distancing can be

containing any outbreak by following local health protection team advice

impact on the ability to take part in exercise or strenuous activity, for example during sports. Face coverings do not need to be worn by children when outdoors on the premises. Subject to the roadmap process, as part of step 3, we expect these precautionary

measures to no longer be recommended. This would be no earlier than 17 May and will

maintained. This does not apply in situations where wearing a face covering would

available. **Bubbles and group sizes**

Where possible to do so, providers should try to work with you and the school or early

years setting that your child attends to ensure they can be kept in a group with other

Where it is not possible for providers to group children in the same bubbles, they may

different school. If this is the case and the activity is taking place indoors, providers

need to group them with other children from outside their school day bubble, or from a

children from the same bubble they are in during the school day.

Providers will need to regularly review groups to minimise the amount of mixing. **Asymptomatic testing**

Asymptomatic testing will help to break the chains of transmission of coronavirus in

education and childcare settings by identifying asymptomatic positive cases. This is

If you're a member of a household, childcare or support bubble of a primary or

For more information read the guidance on 'Households and bubbles of pupils,

secondary-age pupil or college student, you can get a twice-weekly test:

asymptomatic) so could be spreading the disease unknowingly.

• through your employer if they offer testing to employees

• by collecting a home test kit from a test site

• by ordering a home test kit online

• at a local test site

You should:

• a high temperature

coronavirus (COVID-19)

coronavirus (COVID-19)

outside the common travel area

coronavirus (COVID-19) or if asked by NHS Test and Trace

local health protection team

phone if you do not have internet access.

injured or their life is at risk.

professionals.

have recovered.

important as up to 1 in 3 people who have the virus have it without symptoms (they are

 a new continuous cough • a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste • self-isolate immediately and not attend the out-of-school or wraparound childcare setting if: you or your child develops symptoms

you or your child have been in close contact with someone who tests positive for

• anyone in your household or support or childcare bubble develops symptoms of

• you or your child have been advised to isolate by NHS test and trace or the PHE

provide details of anyone they have been in close contact with, if they test positive for

If your child becomes unwell while at a setting, the provider should call you immediately

unless your child is seriously unwell. In an emergency, call 999 if they are seriously ill or

Follow the NHS guidance on when to self-isolate and what to do, or contact NHS 119 by

If your child tests negative, they can usually return to the setting and your household

If your child tests negative but is unwell, they should not return to the setting until they

Applications from parents and guardians who need to take

(even where they have not been told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace) and you are

on a low income, unable to work from home and need to take time off work to care for a

time off work to care for a child who is self-isolating

If your child has been advised to self-isolate by their education or childcare setting

child who is self-isolating, you may be eligible for a one-off Test and Trace Support

scheme, and further information on how you can apply, can be found at claiming

can stop self-isolating, subject to confirmation from local health protection

to collect them. When you collect your child, you should take them straight home. Do

not use public transport or visit the GP, pharmacy, urgent care centre or a hospital

you or your child are required to quarantine having recently visited countries

• book a test if you or your child has symptoms - the main symptoms are:

- to do so, but you may leave home, to avoid injury or illness or to escape the risk of harm. More information can be found on NHS Test and Trace: how it works.
- care for your child who is self-isolating, your local authority will be required to contact your child's nursery, childminder or school via phone or email to verify the information you've supplied. This includes your child's name, age and dates of self-isolation. This is a standard check against fraudulent claims, and may take place before or after a payment is made.

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What to do if your child is displaying coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms

Payment of £500 from your local authority. You do not require an NHS Test and Trace Account ID number in order to claim and your school is not required to register all children asked to self-isolate with NHS Test and Trace in the same way as staff. To be eligible, you must be the parent or carer of a child that is aged 15 and under, or be aged 16 to 25 with an education health and care plan. The full eligibility criteria for the

financial support under the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme.

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displaying coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms

provision to all children, without restrictions on the purpose for which they may attend and indoor provision to: medical need, or attend a support group

Evidence continues to confirm that children can be susceptible to coronavirus (COVID-19) infection although a range of analyses suggest that children's susceptibility to infection appears less than adults. The evidence is stronger that pre-school and primary aged children are less susceptible to infection than adults and more mixed for secondary-age and older children.

Is this page useful? Yes Coronavirus (COVID-19)

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