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Guidance

# Supporting vulnerable children and young people during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak

Guidance for education settings and local authorities about children supported through social care, with EHC plans or identified as vulnerable by their school or local authority.

Published 22 March 2020

Last updated 19 April 2020 — see all updates

From:

Department for Education (<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education>)

Applies to:

England

## Documents

**Supporting vulnerable children and young people during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak** (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-vulnerable-children-and-young-people/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-vulnerable-children-and-young-people>)

HTML

## Details

This guidance covers children and young people:

- supported by the child social care system
- with education, health and care (EHC) plans
- otherwise identified as vulnerable

This guidance is for service providers, including:

- registered childcare providers (including nurseries and childminders)
- local-authority-maintained schools and academies (both mainstream and special) - throughout, we define 'school' as either maintained by the local authority or a single (or part of a multi) academy trust
- all alternative provision including pupil referral units
- non-maintained special schools
- independent special schools
- general further education (FE) colleges, special post-16 institutions and other post-16 providers
- local authorities and providers of children's social care

Published 22 March 2020

Last updated 19 April 2020 + show all updates

1. 19 April 2020

Clarifications to the existing guidance including the actions to be taken for each group around their attendance or otherwise at an education setting. We have not changed the groups included in the definition of vulnerable children.

2. 1 April 2020

Updated guidance on educational provision over the Easter holidays.

3. 27 March 2020

Updated the following sections of the guidance: 13, 20, 21, 22, 24, 26, 27 and 30.

4. 25 March 2020

Updated guidance to include additional information on children with education health and care (EHC) plans and children in alternative provision (AP) settings.

5. 22 March 2020

First published.

## Related content

- What parents and carers need to know about schools and other education settings during the coronavirus outbreak (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>)
- Coronavirus (COVID-19): guidance for schools and other educational settings (<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-schools-and-other-educational-settings>)
- Actions for schools during the coronavirus outbreak (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-school-closures>)
- COVID-19: guidance on supporting children and young people's mental health and wellbeing (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing>)
- Critical workers who can access schools or educational settings (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision>)

## Collection

- Coronavirus (COVID-19): guidance for schools and other educational settings (<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-schools-and-other-educational-settings>)

## Explore the topic

- Health, safety and wellbeing in schools (<https://www.gov.uk/education/health-safety-and-wellbeing-in-schools>)
- Support for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) (<https://www.gov.uk/childcare-parenting/support-for-children-with-send>)

## Topical events

- Coronavirus (COVID-19): UK government response (<https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response>)