COVID-19

Guidance for educational settings

This guidance is correct at the time of publishing.
However as it is subject to changes, please ensure that the information at time of issue is accurate and correct.
COVID-19: Guidance for educational settings about the novel coronavirus (COVID-19)
Updated 7 April 2020

What you need to know

• staff, young people and children should stay at home if they are unwell with a new, continuous
cough or a high temperature to avoid spreading infection to others. Otherwise, those who are
eligible or required to attend should attend education or work as normal

• if staff, young people or children become unwell on site with a new, continuous cough or a high
temperature they must be sent home

• clean and disinfect regularly touched objects and surfaces more often than usual using standard
cleaning products

• supervise young children to ensure they wash their hands for 20 seconds more often than usual
with soap and water or hand sanitiser and catch coughs and sneezes in tissues

• posters and lesson plans on general hand hygiene can be found on the eBug website

Background
This guidance will assist staff in addressing coronavirus (COVID-19) in educational settings.
This includes childcare, early years, schools, further and higher education institutions.
This guidance will be updated in line with the changing situation.

Symptoms
The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are a new, continuous cough or a high
temperature (over 37.8 degrees).
For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild infection.
Children are likely to become infected with coronavirus (COVID-19) at roughly the same rate as
adults, but the infection is usually mild.

What to do if someone develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19)
whilst at an educational setting
If anyone becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature in an education setting
they must be sent home and advised to follow the advice to self-isolate. They should be advised to
seek clinical advice by using the online assessment at gov.im/covidtest to determine whether a call
needs to be made to the COVID 111 helpline. They must self-isolate for 14 days from the onset of
symptoms, regardless of whether the test result is positive or negative. If the test is positive, details
will be passed to the Public Health Contact Tracing Service so any contacts can be followed up and
advised. In an emergency, call 999 if they are seriously ill or injured, or their life is at risk. Do not
visit the GP, pharmacy, MEDS or a hospital.
If a child is awaiting collection, they should be moved, if possible, to a room where they can be isolated behind a closed door, depending on the age of the child and with appropriate adult supervision if required. Ideally, a window should be opened for ventilation. If it is not possible to isolate them, move them to an area which is at least 2 metres away from other people.

If they need to go to the bathroom while waiting to be collected, they should use a separate bathroom if possible. The bathroom should be cleaned and disinfected using standard cleaning products before being used by anyone else.

If a member of staff has helped someone who was taken unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, they do not need to go home unless they develop symptoms themselves. They should wash their hands thoroughly for 20 seconds after any contact with someone who is unwell. Cleaning with normal household disinfectant after someone with symptoms has left will reduce the risk of passing the infection on to other people. You can find guidance on cleaning in non-healthcare settings.

**Limiting the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) in educational settings**

Educational settings can help reduce the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) by reminding everyone of the public health advice. You can use this promotional poster.

Staff, children, pupils, students and families should be reminded to wash their hands for 20 seconds more frequently than normal. You can use this handwashing guidance poster.

Frequently clean and disinfect objects and surfaces that are touched regularly, using your standard cleaning products.

**Cleaning and Waste**

You can find guidance on cleaning and waste disposal.

**Tools for use in childcare and educational settings**

Use e-Bug resources to teach pupils about hygiene.

This document has been localised for Isle of Man use and adapted using wording taken from the Public Health England COVID-19: Guidance for educational settings.