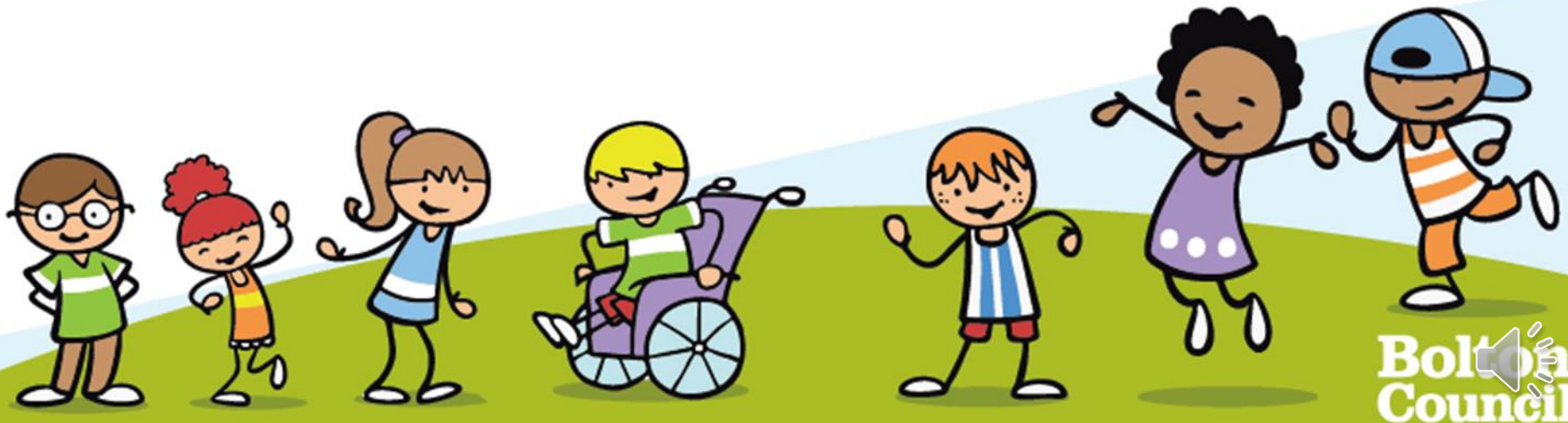


EYFS Briefing

Start Well Briefing for
Early Education and Childcare Providers
29th May 2020



Government Road map

- Press notice
- Actions for educational and childcare settings
- Implementing protective measures in education childcare settings
- Information for parents and carers
- *Planning guide for early years and childcare settings*
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preparing-for-the-wider-opening-of-early-years-and-childcare-settings-from-1-june/planning-guide-for-early-years-and-childcare-settings>
- We would really recommend that you read the guidance and also listen to the **Foundation Years Vodcast** to support it. It is very clear and has a number of questions that I know many of you have raised. In Bolton we were planning an additional EYFS briefing as the operational guidance was released but this is so thorough we will wait to release our briefing at this time.
- You can find it here;
- <https://clicktime.symantec.com/3JkrSYtmtE7ttEMggw9HbaC6H2?u=https%3A%2F%2Fncb.us9.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3D93ca41ab24380caf57761bd37%26id%3D9fcd2b23ea%26e%3D38709c1852>
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Planning guide for early years and childcare settings

Contents

1. Prepare the premises
 2. Prepare to implement practical measures to reduce risk
 3. Reviewing your staff for availability to work in the setting (if applicable)
 4. Agree a protocol for responding to a suspected case of coronavirus and ensure setting is prepared
 5. Communicate with staff
 6. Communicate with parents and carers
 7. Identify the likely numbers of children returning to the setting
 8. Plan your setting's groups to reduce contact between children and staff
 9. Identify safeguarding, special educational needs and disability (SEND), child wellbeing and welfare requirements
 10. Planning what children should learn and how to adapt the EYFS
- Annex A: Model letter to parents and carers
Annex B: Resources to help children to learn about coronavirus and how to keep themselves and others safe



Coronavirus (COVID-19) | Guidance and support

Home > Preparing for the wider opening of early years and childcare settings from 1 June



Guidance

Planning guide for early years and childcare settings

Published 24 May 2020

Contents

1. [Prepare the premises](#)
2. [Prepare to implement practical measures to reduce risk](#)
3. [Reviewing your staff for availability to work in the setting \(if applicable\)](#)
4. [Agree a protocol for responding to a suspected case of coronavirus and ensure setting is prepared](#)

The government announced a roadmap towards recovery from the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak and plans for welcoming all children back to early years settings and [phased return of some children to school](#) from 1 June at the earliest.

This planning guide is intended to provide information and support for all early years providers in England as they prepare to open for all children.

It is for:

- local-authority-maintained schools
- non-maintained schools
- independent schools



Letter outlining support for all EY providers 28.05.2020

- Generic COVID-19 risk assessment has been produced by the LA's Health and Safety Team as a tool to aid you in this and is available here:
- <https://www.boltonstartwell.org.uk/downloads/file/443/covid-19-early-education-childcare-support-pack>
- It is the responsibility of the Owner/Manager to complete a risk assessment and ensure that it is shared with all staff.
- Communication with parents and carers is key and elements of the risk assessment shared with parents may reassure them in such uncertain times.
- Please contact your health and safety provider for additional support.



Wraparound provision

From Section 7. Identify the likely numbers of children returning to the setting

- To minimise contact between groups of children and staff, children should attend just one setting wherever possible and parents and carers should be encouraged to minimise as far as possible the number of education and childcare settings their child attends. Childminding settings should consider how they can work with parents and carers to agree how best to manage any necessary journeys, for example pick-ups and drop-offs at schools, to reduce the need for a provider to travel with groups of children.

Planning guide for early years and childcare providers May 24th 2020



Wraparound provision

- **We normally run breakfast and after school clubs as part of our 'wrap-around' provision. Are we required to re-start them?**
- No, you are not required to do so. You should only run such provision if you are able to keep children within the groups they are in during the day or safely distanced.
- **DfE vodcast Foundation Years 24 May 2020** (QA at 40min 40 sec)
- Ask that children attend 1 setting only unless it is essential
- If not possible it is for parents and settings to decide how to make things work
- How can transporting groups of children be avoided?
- Not straightforward

Planning guide for primary schools

Updated 25 May 2020



Wraparound provision

- Working with parents, get in touch with the headteacher at your school to see how they are approaching the safe re-opening of school, so that you can explore how you could align your processes with theirs.
- How they are planning to organise their small groups 'bubbles' of children?
- What are the drop-off and collection times for the different groups?
- For group provision how will you ensure that children of different class groups do not mix during the before or after school sessions. Do you have sufficient space to keep them separated? How could this be achieved (eg by having the children in separate rooms, or could you sub-divide your space in some way)?
- For childminders – how will you keep your 'bubble' as small as possible?
- Risk assess- will you need to put a temporary cap on numbers?



PPE

- National guidance states that additional PPE is only required in childcare settings and schools in a small number of exceptional cases.
- Settings are advised to procure PPE via existing procurement routes. If you are struggling to source PPE a request can be made for an emergency PPE pack by contacting policyandperformance@bolton.gov.uk
- If incorrectly used it can give a level of false reassurance. It is essential that all staff using PPE have received appropriate training in the donning and doffing of the kit using the link below, or they could increase rather than reduce their risk.
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-personal-protective-equipment-use-for-non-aerosol-generating-procedures>
- If staff need any support, they can email the Community Infection Prevention and Control Team on CommunityInfectionPrevention&Control@boltonft.nhs.uk

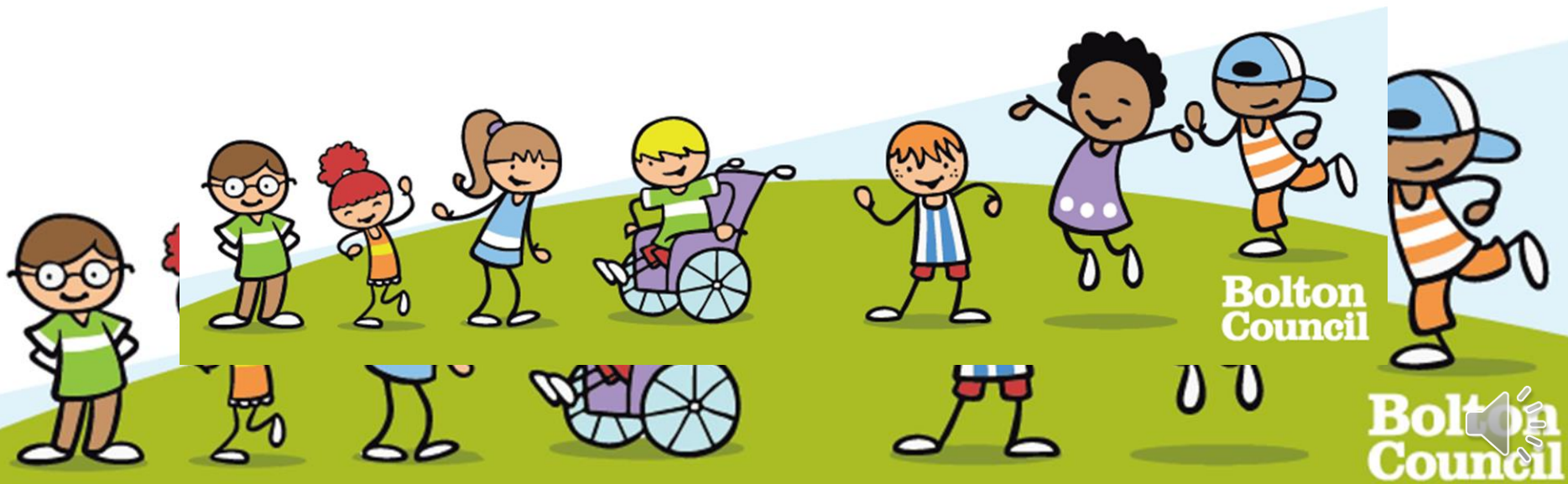


Covid-19 Testing for under 5's

- https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested?fbclid=IwAR2TKPanyb2bagAB6Zd_WFhhcMmDpQwuJvC46kknUMrCNmegvxk2J0OzKj8
- At present just for essential workers/ children of essential workers, not all workers and children returning to schools / early education settings or vulnerable children
- This test must be performed by a parent or guardian
- Local arrangements for testing under 5's to be released soon



Funded Programme Update



Two year old funding

- Providers are encouraged to do checks on Portal as soon as possible
- Make sure details are entered accurately so you can add hours on the headcount at a later date
- If a parent's on Universal Credit – do an economic claim first, if this doesn't work do a non-economic claim and send in the parent's evidence
- Paper evidence for non-economic claims to be emailed in to Families Information securely:
 - email families@bolton.gov.uk to ask for a secure email to be sent to you
 - when the secure email comes to you, reply to it and attach the evidence and application reference



30 Hour Codes

Temporary changes to the 30 hours free entitlement for this term:

1. **Parents who will not meet the minimum income threshold** (16 hours per week at National Minimum/Living Wage) due to lower earnings as a direct result of coronavirus (COVID-19) will be treated as meeting that test during the outbreak - only if they apply/confirm during the summer term.
2. If **critical workers exceed the maximum income threshold** (£100k per year) due to increased hours as a direct result of the coronavirus (COVID 19) outbreak, they will remain eligible for 30 hours for the current tax year.
3. **Relaxation of the validity dates on 30 hours codes where parents were ordinarily eligible and expecting to take up a 30 hours childcare place between 1 April 2020 and 31 August 2020**, but have missed the reconfirmation/application deadline of 31 March 2020. This will enable children to take up their places in the summer term.

(For 1-3, Need to check child turned 3 before 1st April)

Please remind parents to apply or renew codes for next term, even if setting is currently closed



Are parents accessing everything they can?



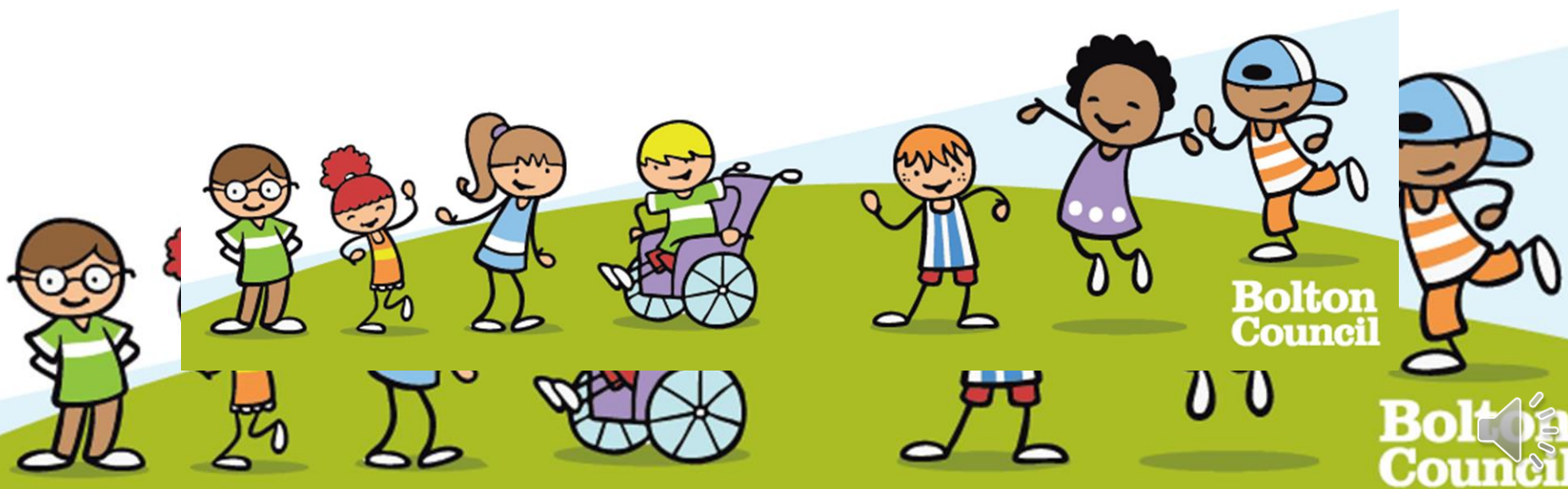
www.childcarechoices.gov.uk



All parents will have different circumstances, so we would recommend they use the childcare calculator to see what is best for them



Keeping your details up to date



Please keep your contact details up to date

If you access the Portal please use the
'Self-Update' Module to keep your contact
details up to date (email / phone)

If you do not use the Portal please email
ec.imu@bolton.gov.uk if you have
changed your phone number or email
address



Please do not update your capacity / vacancy information in the Self- Update Portal at the moment

We are aware that you will be changing your capacity information following your risk assessments, but please do not try to update this on the Portal at this time – we are currently looking at the best way to record temporary changes



Finance update

-Funding (PVI only)

- Additional claims from the 1st June 2020 for children attending a setting not included on the summer 20 term original headcount submission
- Funding from 1st June - 7 weeks maximum to end of term for all children
- This will be an email/attachment return process (the headcount portal will not be re-opening)
- Title your email as 'Name of Provider' June – Aug additional claim summer 2020
- Email to kevan.hamer@bolton.gov.uk and Lauren.murray@bolton.gov.uk
- An encrypted email will be sent to you to respond with an attachment to complete. Please can you then respond securely when completed by the deadline dates stated with the information for the additional children you are claiming funding for
- Please note that funding entitlements paid are for the summer term 2020. Parents may need support to understand that the funding cannot be recalculated from the 1st June to stretch payments until the end of August. All normal conditions apply.
- For any further specific queries please contact Julie Edwards, Schools Finance Manager at julie.edwards@bolton.gov.uk or 01204 332035.



Transition to new providers summer 2020



Managing transition to reception class will be incredibly challenging this year, particularly where the children are moving between a nursery provider to a new school.



Even if children are able to return to their schools and settings the timescales will not allow for many usual good practices to take place.



Early years practitioners have already started to plan the process as parents have been informed of their school places. Bolton Start Well Service and Primary team wanted to share some ideas to support the process which we could add to and share across Early years colleagues. It is not an exhaustive list or a 'to do' list, these are thoughts and suggestions about how some of the process may possibly be managed virtually



Suggestions/ ideas to work with new families:



Write letters to children, include info about yourself, the things you are looking forward to doing etc. ask them to send you a drawing/ letter back so you can start a display



Share photos of the environment with ideas of what play and learning happens there



Ask parents to email photos into setting to display for when they arrive e.g. Me and my family display



Share photos of staff with detail about who they are, when you might see them



Start use of online platform if used (e.g. tapestry) earlier than usual to support getting to know each other and sharing of activities to help settle



For all sharing of images consent will need to be given as per usual policy.



Suggestions/ ideas to work with new families cont:



Give a virtual tour of the environment including how to get to the door on the first day! Perhaps make shorter clips that show the dining area, bathroom, outdoor play area etc.



All about me video messages – meet the team, families share info



Carry out an online story time or rhyme time for families to watch



Share videos of own practitioners singing songs and rhymes which are used as part of daily routines



Consider and share answers to some FAQs which will put families at ease.



Film and share your 'new starter' talk which you may have carried out this term.



Managing transition for children with SEND

Bolton SENCO Briefing May 2020 on
Bolton Start Well website:

<https://www.boltonstartwell.org.uk/news/article/72/eyfs-senco-briefing-may-2020>



EYFS Reforms

‘Actions for schools during the coronavirus outbreak’ guidance has been updated with the following:

21.3 Have plans changed for the EYFS and reception year?

- We are planning to proceed with the reforms to the early years foundation stage, and are considering when to publish the government response to the consultation on the reforms.
- The reforms include plans for an early adopter year which will allow schools to voluntarily implement the new learning and development requirements (including the new early learning goals and educational programmes) as well as assessment and moderation arrangements from this September (2020), if they wish to. Arrangements for the early adopter year are being kept under review, given the coronavirus outbreak. National roll-out of the reforms is planned for the academic year 2021 to 2022.
- We will provide all schools who signed up as early adopters (and local authorities) with further information on this in due course.
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-school-closures/guidance-for-schools-about-temporarily-closing>



Sharing practice and promoting the sector

- We need your ideas to help promote the great work being delivered within the sector. Through social media we have seen some lovely examples of settings and schools keeping in touch with their children and families - from photos to videos, sharing what they are doing during this period and raising morale across early years.
- Tag us and we will share across the Start Well facebook/twitter pages.
- The Facebook group COVID 19 Early Years Bolton is an opportunity for you to share challenges and solutions and discuss ways of working together. It is a group for managers/childminders to support each other, we know how stressful this time is for all for you. It is a forum to share ideas / explore opportunities to safely link together and generally offer each other support during this difficult time.
- If you do not have a Facebook account please go to; <https://bit.ly/34g78Ph>



Keep in touch

If you would like further support and advice, our team will be on hand to call you.

Please contact the office on: **01204 33 8149**
or email

startwellbookings@bolton.gov.uk

and you will be directed to the right person

