

Early Years Education Webinar

25th February 2022

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Years



Please email questions to startwellbookings@bolton.gov.uk

The pandemic is not over yet

Safer behaviours help reduce a range of infections and help keep everyone safe

Please email questions to startwellbookings@bolton.gov.uk

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Coronavirus (COVID-19)

The government is removing remaining domestic restrictions in England. There are still steps you can take to reduce the risk of catching and spreading COVID-19:

- [Get vaccinated](#)
- Let fresh air in if meeting indoors, or meet outside
- Consider wearing a face covering in crowded, enclosed spaces
- [Get tested](#) if you have COVID-19 symptoms, and stay at home if positive



[Find out how you can help reduce the risks](#)

The Government's plan for 'Living with Covid-19'

From 21 February

- staff and students in most education and childcare settings no longer need to undertake twice weekly asymptomatic testing
- staff and students of secondary age and above in SEND settings, alternative provision settings, and SEND units within mainstream settings or equivalent in further education colleges are advised to continue twice-weekly testing

From 24 February:

- people with Covid are not legally required to self-isolate
- however, guidance recommends that those who test positive stay at home and avoid contact with others for at least five full days
- self-isolation support payments of £500 for those on low incomes have stopped
- routine contact tracing has ended - people in contact with someone with Covid will no longer be advised to self-isolate or take daily tests
- workers are not required to tell their employer if they need to self-isolate

From 1 April:

- PCR and lateral flow Covid tests will no longer be free for most people
- Covid passports will no longer be recommended, except for international travel
- employers will no longer have to consider Covid as a separate risk when working out how to keep employees safe

Guidance for settings

Updated 24th February 2022

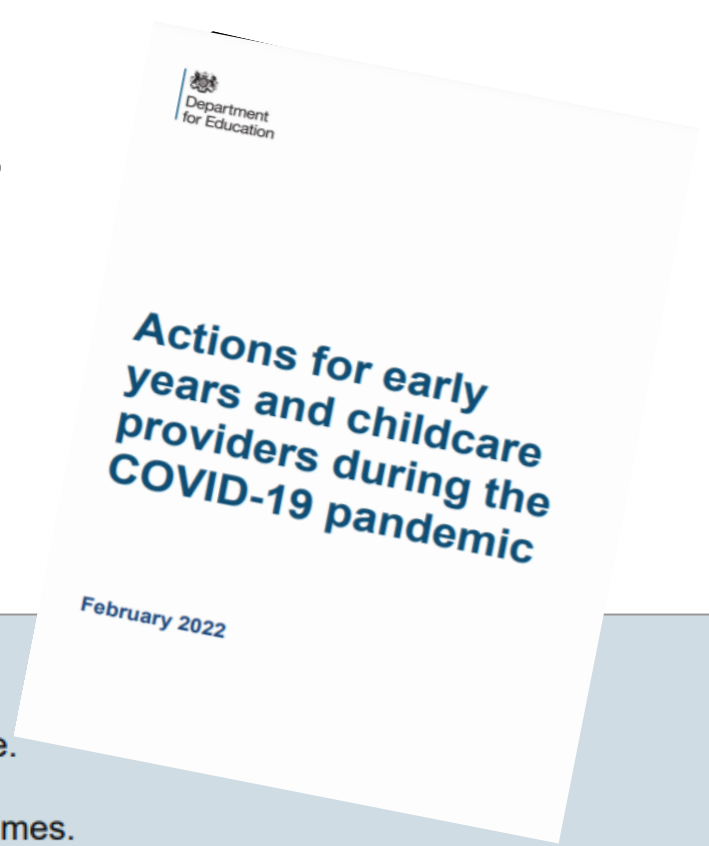
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1056993/20220223_EY_guidance.pdf

- Contacts are no longer required to self-isolate or advised to take daily tests, and contact tracing has ended
- As of 21 February 2022, you do not need to tell Ofsted if there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 at your nursery, childminder business or other day care.
- <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tell-ofsted-if-you-have-a-covid-19-incident-at-your-childcare-business>

Control measures

You should:

1. Ensure good hygiene for everyone.
2. Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes.
3. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.
4. Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.

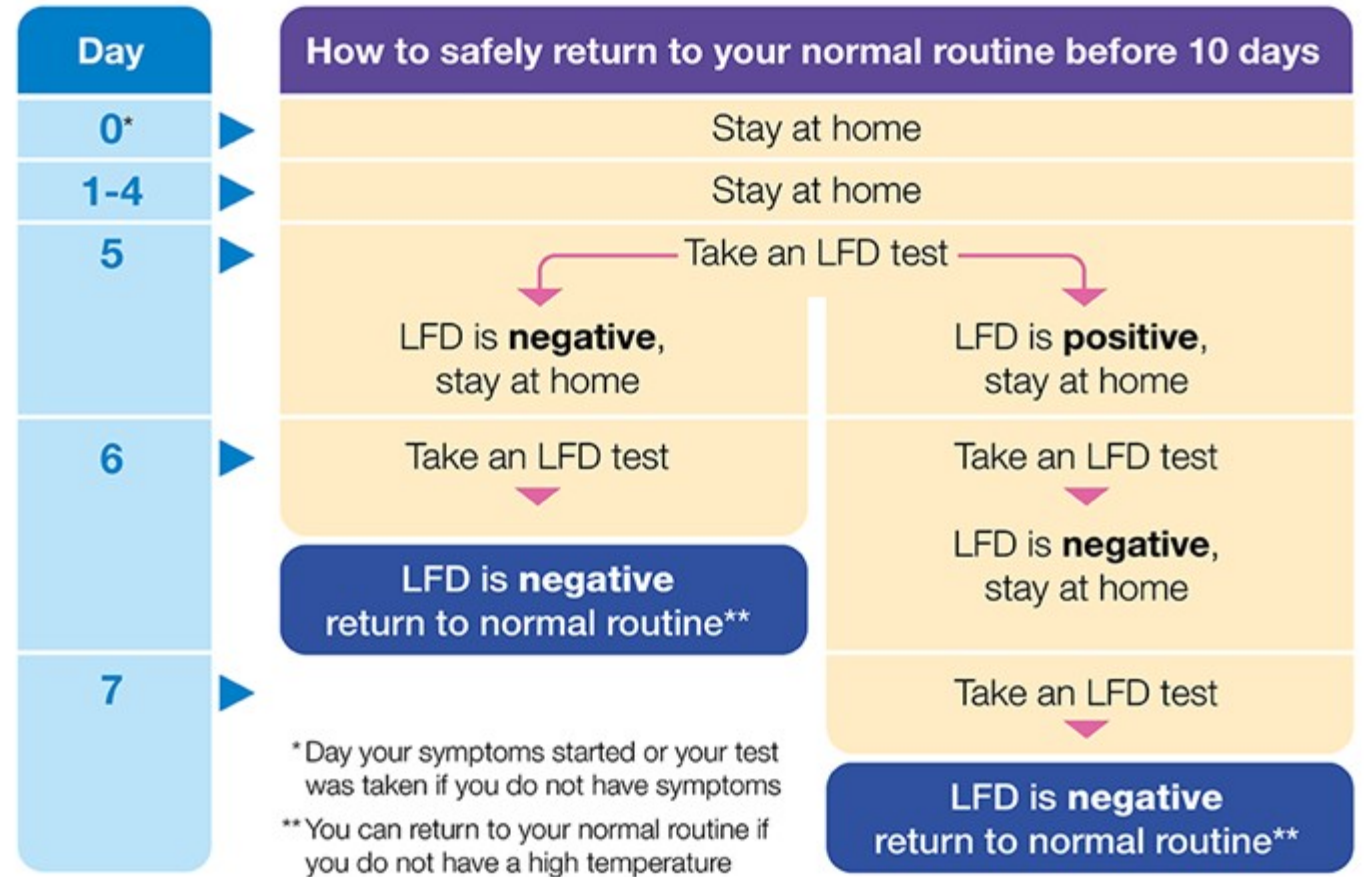


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When an individual develops COVID-19 symptoms or has a positive test

If you have any of the main symptoms of COVID-19 or a positive test result, the public health advice is to **stay at home and avoid contact with other people**.

Children and young people with COVID-19 should not attend their education setting while they are infectious.



[COVID-19: people with COVID-19 and their contacts - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

Please email questions to startwellbookings@bolton.gov.uk

Additional baseline measures for education settings in Bolton - withdrawn

The following measures are strongly recommended:

- Encourage the wearing of face coverings in communal areas for staff, visitors and students (year 7 and above)
- Clear messaging and communication to encourage staff, visitors, students (year 7 and above), and parents to undertake twice-weekly lateral flow testing for people with symptoms
- Consider opportunities to exercise outdoors to reduce indoor gathering and mixing between year groups e.g. assemblies
- Promote social distancing between staff within setting

Withdrawn
23/2/22

Please continue to report cases

Bolton Public Health's Covid-19 response team and education colleagues will continue to work closely with settings with advice and support to manage clusters and outbreaks

Contact Bolton COVID-19 response team on 01204 336004

Monday – Friday 8.30-5.30; Sat, Sun 9.00-1.30

Covid19contacttracing@bolton.gov.uk

Community messaging on safer behaviours

Government advice on COVID-safe behaviour is still in place, and these are the steps we can all take to help keep everyone safe



HOW YOU CAN CONTINUE TO KEEP YOURSELF AND YOUR LOVED ONES SAFE



VACCINES

Get vaccinated to reduce your risk of catching Covid-19 and becoming seriously ill, and to reduce the risk of spreading the virus to others.



FRESH AIR

Letting fresh air in if meeting indoors, or meeting outside to disperse Covid-19 particles and reduce the risk of spreading the virus.



FACE COVERING

Consider wearing a face covering in crowded, enclosed spaces.



STAY AT HOME IF UNWELL

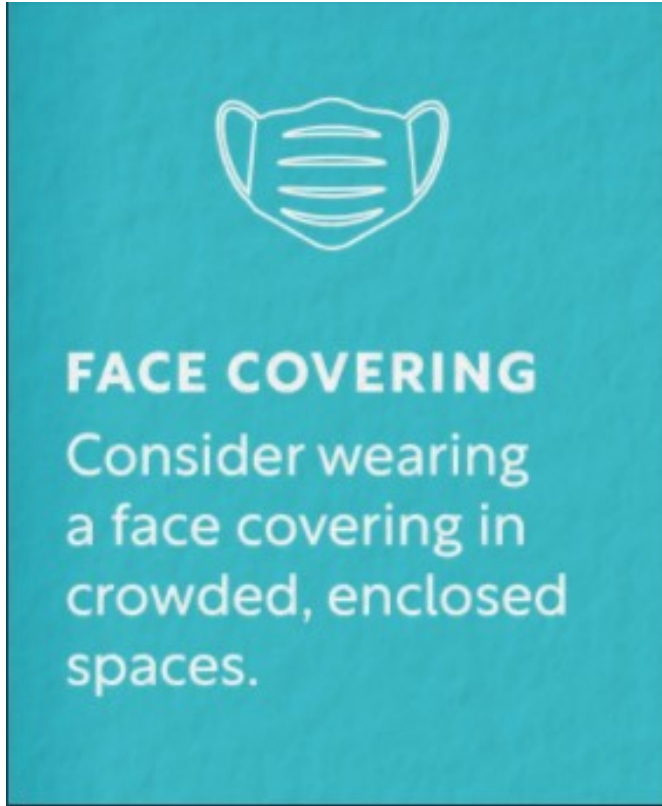
Try to stay at home if you are unwell.



HAND WASHING

Wash your hands regularly to limit the spread of Covid-19.

Face coverings



- Individuals may choose to wear face coverings in any setting
- Please continue to support individuals who chose to wear face coverings
- Staff and pupils should follow [wider advice on face coverings outside](#) of setting, including on transport to and from setting

Links to guidance and advice

- Operational guidance:
- https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1056993/20220223_EY_guidance.pdf
- SEND and Specialist settings operational guidance
- [SEND and specialist settings: additional COVID-19 operational guidance \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1056993/20220223_EY_guidance.pdf)
- Contingency Framework:
- [Managing coronavirus \(COVID-19\) in education and childcare settings - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/managing-coronavirus-covid-19-in-education-and-childcare-settings)
- Wider guidance for people with coronavirus and their contacts
- [COVID-19: people with COVID-19 and their contacts - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-people-with-covid-19-and-their-contacts)
- Bolton Council - local information on coronavirus including testing and vaccination
- www.bolton.gov.uk/staycovidSAFE

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12-15 years COVID-19 vaccination schools offer

Bolton NHS Foundation Trust responsible for delivering second phase of the COVID-19 vaccination programme to children aged 12-15 years in education settings:

- Operating through Bolton FT Schools Immunisation Team and subcontracted arrangements with local GP providers.
- The programme commenced 17th January and will run to 31st March.
- Offer includes 1st and 2nd doses*
- Consent forms will be sent to school either as paper or electronic format depending on school preference. However, all consent forms need to be returned signed in paper format.

***Criteria for children to have 2nd dose:**

- **Minimum of 12 weeks since first vaccine, unless they have a condition that means they are at higher risk of becoming seriously ill with Covid or live with someone at higher risk.**
- **Not tested positive for covid-19 in last 12 weeks**

Please email questions to startwellbookings@bolton.gov.uk

12-15 years COVID-19 vaccination schools offer

- There are also 4 walk-in centres in Bolton who will accept 12-15 year olds for 1st and 2nd vaccinations:

Horwich RMI Club Ramsbottom Road, BL6 5NH	Hootons Pharmacy Bolton Wanderers Football Club, University of Bolton Stadium, De Havilland Way, BL6 6SF	Market Place Shopping Centre, Knowsley Street, Bolton, BL1 2AL Walk in Saturdays Avondale HC, BL1 4JP Walk In Sundays
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- The community offer at the walk-in centres will continue alongside the school offer and is co-ordinated by Bolton Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)
- N.B. This is a separate offer to the offer in schools from Bolton FT School Immunisation Team,
- Further information on the community 12-15 walk in offer can be found on the CCG website – <https://www.boltonccg.nhs.uk>

5-11 years COVID-19 vaccination offer

- MHRA (regulatory body medicines) approved vaccine safe for all 5-11yr olds Dec 2021
- As of January 31st children aged 5-11 years who are at higher risk from COVID-19 infection or those living with people who are immunosuppressed are already eligible for vaccination (low dose Pfizer, 2 doses, 8 weeks apart)
- Eligible children will have been identified and invited by their GP or hospital clinician to receive their vaccination at their GP practice or specialist clinic.
- Joint Committee for Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) have now recommended that the vaccination programme should be extended to ALL children aged 5-11 years.
- The programme roll-out will be 'non urgent' and based on parental choice
- The offer will be community based (rather than within educational settings) and will include pharmacies, GP practices and local vaccination sites.
- In Bolton CEV 5-11 circa 1160 Of which circa 100 have taken the vaccine

Questions in advance

Dealing with symptomatic pupils

- Q. What advice should settings give to parents of children with covid symptoms - testing prior to attending school via LFD or PCR / stay at home for 5 days? Can settings insist on this?**
- Q. Will the guidance be for children to isolate even though this is no longer a legal requirement?**
- Q. Should parents let us know if they test positive and have to isolate (even though this is not mandatory)? – min 5 days before they can start testing to come out of their self-imposed isolation**

Children and young people with COVID-19 should not attend their education setting while they are infectious. They should take an LFD test from 5 days after their symptoms started (or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms) followed by another one the next day. If both these tests results are negative, they should return to their educational setting if they normally attend one, as long as they feel well enough to do so and do not have a temperature.

Questions in advance

Dealing with symptomatic pupils

Q. Do we still send warn and inform letter to parents/staff for any positive cases in setting?

No, warn and inform letters are no longer required. Please contact the Public Health team for advice on managing positive cases.

Q. Testing from 01/04 if symptomatic – is this a PCR test? Settings will be sent testing kits – will these be PCR kits or LFD?

LFD. Consider encouraging staff and students to access test kits from their local pharmacy, collection from testing hub (Bolton Arena, or town centre), or by ordering online for home delivery

www.bolton.gov.uk/staycovid-safe

From 1st April, education settings may be advised distribute tests on a temporary basis as an outbreak response measure if agreed with their Director of Public Health or Health Protection Team, in line with the contingency framework.

Questions in advance

Reporting cases in setting

Q. Clarification on the reporting of positive cases – is the online form still in place and does it still need to be used, or just the phone line?

Q. What are we reporting on? If people no longer get free tests, will anyone actually test positive? Is it only positive test results we now report on or do we report suspected cases (symptomatic cases) as well? Will this data be accurate?

Please continue to report cases in the usual way. This helps us to monitor the local situation and respond quickly to clusters and outbreaks.

Universal free testing (PCR and LFD) continue to be available until 31st March. We are expecting further guidance on managing cases after this date.

Questions in advance

Health & Safety

Q. Can we go back to using hand dryers instead of paper towels?

- Advice around not using dryers was removed a while ago.
- If the local assessment is that using towels is detrimental for housekeeping / hygiene and cost, settings are fine to switch them back on as long as they keep the area well ventilated (if possible).
- More information can be found on the Health & Safety Executive (HSE) website <https://www.hse.gov.uk/coronavirus/cleaning/bathrooms-toilets-washbasins.htm>

**Please email any additional
questions to:**

startwellbookings@bolton.gov.uk

