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**COVID-19 Protocol for schools, early years providers and holiday club providers in Derby**

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# **Updated Guidance: 5th January 2022**

Please refer to the latest guidance to identify the actions required to manage suspected or confirmed cases and reduce onward transmission of COVID-19 in educational and early years settings in Derby:

* [Contingency-framework-education-and-childcare-settings](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-local-restrictions-in-education-and-childcare-settings/contingency-framework-education-and-childcare-settings#actions)
* [Schools COVID-19 operational guidance January 2022 (publishing.service.gov.uk)](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1044890/Schools_guidance_January_2022_.pdf)
* [Actions for early years and childcare providers during the COVID-19 pandemic - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures/actions-for-early-years-and-childcare-providers-during-the-covid-19-pandemic)
* [COVID-19: Actions for out-of-school settings - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protective-measures-for-holiday-or-after-school-clubs-and-other-out-of-school-settings-for-children-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/covid-19-actions-for-out-of-school-settings)
* [Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection)
* [When to self-isolate and what to do - Coronavirus (COVID-19) - NHS (www.nhs.uk)](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/)

## **Background**

* Booster campaign and promoting vaccination uptake remains key strategy. If you have been vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine, you are less likely to become severely ill if you catch COVID-19. You are also less likely to spread COVID-19 to other people, but it is still possible for this to happen.
* Fastest growth in Covid cases and case rates are now rapidly rising among the older and more vulnerable, including those over 60, with the risk that this will continue to increase the pressures on the NHS.
* Plan B agreed until 26 January.

## **Isolation and Testing**

* The self-isolation advice for people with coronavirus (COVID-19) has changed. It is now possible to end self-isolation after 7 days, following 2 negative LFD tests taken 24 hours apart. The first LFD test should not be taken before the sixth day.
* All educational and childcare settings should continue to encourage staff and students to test twice weekly using lateral flow device (LFD) tests.
* From 11th January in England, people who receive positive lateral flow results for COVID-19 will be required to self-isolate immediately and won’t be required to take a confirmatory PCR test. This is a temporary measure while COVID-19 rates remain high across the UK. Whilst levels of COVID-19 are high, the vast majority of people with positive LFD results can be confident that they have COVID-19.
* Under this new approach, anyone who receives a positive lateral flow device (LFD) test result should report their result on [gov.uk](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gov.uk%2Freport-covid19-result&data=04%7C01%7CMaria.Hallam%40dhsc.gov.uk%7Cea3c055c090545f7fea908d9d06cc96f%7C61278c3091a84c318c1fef4de8973a1c%7C1%7C0%7C637769988269638063%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=AeluvWdxRx22qg5qWu%2BsMydyZ2uM%2BoAIOhLUMSpVD1s%3D&reserved=0) and must self-isolate immediately but will not need to take a follow-up PCR test. After reporting a positive LFD test result, they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace so that their contacts can be traced and must continue to self-isolate.
* Anyone with symptoms, including close contacts who develop symptoms, must still take a PCR test and isolate until they get their result. If positive they must continue to isolate for 10 days, or 7 days if they test negative on LFT on day 6 and 7 (24 hours apart):



* From 14 December 2021, adults who are fully vaccinated and all children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 are strongly advised to take a LFD test every day for 7 days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result. Daily testing of close contacts applies to all contacts who are:
	+ fully vaccinated adults – people who have had 2 doses of an approved vaccine
	+ all children and young people aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, regardless of their vaccination status
	+ people who are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons
	+ people taking part, or have taken part, in an approved clinical trial for a COVID-19 vaccine Children under 5 years are exempt from self-isolation and do not need to take part in daily testing of close contacts
* <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing/get-tested-for-coronavirus/>

## **Face Coverings**

* From 4 January 2022 face coverings should be worn in classrooms for Year 7 and above.
* Face coverings should be worn by pupils, students, staff and adult visitors when moving around the premises, outside of classrooms, such as in corridors and communal areas.
* These pupils and students must also wear a face covering when travelling on public transport and should wear it on dedicated transport to and from school.
* In primary schools, face coverings should be worn by staff, adults, and those aged over 11 (including visitors) when moving around in corridors and communal areas. Health advice continues to be that children in primary schools should not be asked to wear face coverings.

## **Vaccines**

All eligible staff and students are encouraged to take up the offer of the vaccine, including boosters.

Vaccines are our best defence against COVID-19. They help protect young people and adults, and benefit those around them. Vaccination makes people less likely to catch the virus and less likely to pass it on.

To book a vaccination visit: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/>

## **Risk Assessments and Control Measures**

* All settings must regularly review and update their risk assessments - treating them as ‘living documents’, as the circumstances in your school and the public health advice changes. This includes having active arrangements in place to monitor whether the controls are effective and working as planned.
* The schools Covid-19 risk assessment form has been updated by Derby City Council Corporate Health and Safety Team (CHST) for the spring term. A copy of the assessment will be available on the Schools Information Portal (SIP). This template should be used by school leaders in consultation with their staff and should add any further/relevant controls that reflect any specific hazards or risks related to your individual school setting. Once updated, share a copy of the assessment with Trade Union colleagues as part of the consultation process. Maintained schools or those academies that buy-back Derby City Council’s health and safety service should return a final copy to the CHST by email: employee.healthandsafety@derby.gov.uk
* All settings should continue to ensure good hygiene for everyone, maintain appropriate cleaning regimes, keep occupied spaces well ventilated, and follow public health advice on testing and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.
* All settings should continue their strong messaging about signs and symptoms, isolation advice and testing, to support prompt isolation of suspected cases. Settings should also continue to encourage vaccination uptake for eligible students and staff.

## **Thresholds/Outbreak Management**

* The thresholds for seeking public health advice for education and childcare settings, remain unchanged:
	+ 5 children, pupils, students or staff, who are likely to have mixed closely, test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period; or
	+ 10% of children, pupils, students or staff who are likely to have mixed closely test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period
	+ For special schools, residential settings, and settings that operate with 20 or fewer children, pupils, students and staff at any one time: 2 children, pupils, students and staff, who are likely to have mixed closely, test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period.

## **Notification of Cases**

If you have cases please notify Derby public health by emailing cct@derby.gov.uk You can also use this email to access local public health advice, support and risk assessment.

Please notify multiple cases (5 or more cases in the last 10 days) to the public health CCT outbreak management team at Derby City Council using the attached spreadsheet template and emailing it to: cct@derby.gov.uk

This can be updated weekly or as agreed with public health. The Derby public health team team will investigate if this is an outbreak within your setting and will help you to review your control measures to reduce further transmission.

Early Years and School Nursery settings should also notify Ofsted at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tell-ofsted-if-you-have-a-covid-19-incident-at-your-childcare-business> and Derby City Council Early Years by emailing coral.golding@derby.gov.uk

Schools should also notify jayne.hadfield@derby.gov.uk

## Flowchart for response to possible or confirmed cases in your setting

1 or more confirmed cases

In an emergency, call 999 if they are seriously ill, injured or life is at risk.

Individual to be isolated on site until they can travel home independently by car or with a relative or carer.

PPE (masks, gloves, apron) to be worn by anyone in attendance.

Advise individual to take a PCR test

Case to isolate until result known.

Disinfect/clean all surfaces the child has come into contact with

Contact Derby City Council if advice required cct@derby.gov.uk

Warn/inform close contacts

**Negative result**

Return to setting, no further action.

**Positive result**

Self-isolation:

Case = 10 days since symptom onset / positive test result (whichever earliest).

Notify Derby City Council on CCT@derby.gov.uk and email Jayne.hadfield@derby.gov.uk (schools) or Coral.golding@derby.gov.uk (early years)

Be prepared, have the following information ready:

* Setting details: numbers of staff and students, size and layout of setting
* Details of case(s), including number of positive and/or possible cases
* Dates of symptom onset, test result, and last attendance
* Any contact with known cases?
* Details of close contacts and any close mixing, indicating school spread
* Details of control measures (ventilation, masks, etc.)

To consider once threshold is reached:

* Email cct@derby.gov.uk for advice if required
* Contingency/control measures
* Activities outdoors
* Ventilation indoors
* One-off enhanced cleaning
* Strengthened communications to parents
* Increased frequency of testing
* Limit visits, open days, etc.

A possible case in the setting (symptoms but not confirmed)

Clean exposed environments according to [covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings) gov.uk document

If a Looked After Child or subject to CIN/CPP – inform social worker of absence

Access local support and advice as needed, including support for comms.

Review local risk assessment and mitigation

**Threshold:**

5 cases (staff/pupils) in 10 days who are likely to have mixed closely (or 10% of pupils/staff) work with Public Health teams to manage outbreak.

Asymptomatic/LFT Positive (regular testing/daily contact testing)

# Derby City Council COVID CCT Spreadsheet

**Complete and email to CCT:** **CCT@derby.gov.uk**

