

Educational Services

Summary Guidance – Updates November 2020

- Face coverings should be worn by staff and adults when meeting parents and moving around the EYC. They are not required when interacting with children in the playrooms and outdoor areas.
- Parents should be strongly encouraged to wear face coverings when dropping off and picking up children even if this is outdoors. Visitors should wear face coverings when entering the building.
- Staff should remain physically distanced where possible. It is not always appropriate or possible to physically distance with your children or children with additional support needs.
- Children must be managed in cohorts/groups of no more than 33 children. No child should engage with more than a cohort of more than 33 children across the entirety of their experience in a week. Children and staff would remain within these groups. Where cover is required this should, as far as possible, be managed with staff working within the groups or the time should be limited as far as possible.
- All staff and adults must maintain 2 metre distancing at all times in the playrooms, outdoor areas, staff rooms and staff meetings.
- Peripatetic staff should not be in more than one centre each day. Managers should make every effort to reduce the number of peripatetic staff in centres and limit movement between centres across the week.

Protective Measures

- When services are operating in protection level 0-2 children should continue to attend.
- When services are operating in protection level 3 parents should seek medical advice for children in the highest clinical risk category.
- When services are operating in protection level 4 individual risk assessments should ensure continuity of education and care for individuals.
- The majority of workplaces including early years centres can be made safe for employees. Individual risk assessments should be in place for staff to mitigate and manage the environment and individual circumstances.

Guidance on Singing

- Group singing in early years centres should not take place in the current situation. Children may choose to sing in the course of activities and play, and should not be discouraged from doing so.

Ventilation

- Staff to use appropriate balance of opening windows and doors alongside the need to ensure an appropriate room temperature.

- All settings must ensure that levels of ventilation are provided in line with existing guidance including 'Space to Grow'.