



Summer In Dorset webinar – Wednesday 22nd July 2020

Questions and Answers – UPDATED 28th July 2020

1) Why are group sizes smaller outside when it is safer outdoors?

We recognise that this is confusing and complicated guidance. We would advise providers to familiarise themselves with the national guidance; in particular:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures>

Providers should also be aware that from 20 July:

- early years settings are no longer required to keep children in small, consistent groups within settings but can return to normal group sizes
- settings should still consider how they can minimise mixing within settings, for example where they use different rooms for different age groups, keeping those groups apart as much as possible.

This is outlined by age as follows:

➤ **Groups for children aged 5 and over:**

The change outlined above does not extend to cover provision for children over the age of 5 – where early years settings are caring for children over the age of 5, they should ensure they are also following this guidance:

[Protective measures for out-of-school settings during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#) (includes guidance on group sizes).

➤ **Groups for children under the age of 5 and over the age of 5 separately**

Providers caring for children both under the age of 5 and over the age of 5 separately, where it is possible to do so, may choose to:

- apply the measures outlined in the guidance above to those children under the age of 5
- apply the measures outlined in the “protective measures guidance for out-of-school settings” to those children over the age of 5

➤ **Groups with a mix of age groups together**

Providers will need to, as far as possible, keep all children (irrespective of age) in small consistent groups of no more than 15 with at least one staff member, or with more staff members to meet relevant ratio requirements:

<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/protective-measures-for-out-of-school-settings-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak#consider-group> (see the paragraph “Considering Group sizes”)

If providers are unable to follow the protective measures in this guidance, they should only operate your provision outside and follow the government guidelines on the [phased return of sport and recreation in England](#), which allow up to 6 people from different households to meet outdoors. In doing so, providers should ensure, as far as possible, children practise social distancing in line with the [government’s current guidance](#) and that they keep children in groups of no more than 6, including staff members.

2) What information will the group leaders want of the children on the day?

Summer In Dorset groups should ensure no children or staff attending the setting with possible symptoms of COVID-19. This will be an important question to ask of parents dropping children at the setting. If the child or parent has any symptoms of COVID-19 they should return home, along with any siblings also attending the setting, to self-isolate and arrange for testing.

Public Health England will manage any contact tracing.

3) Is it straightforward to change adverts on the family information directory?

Please email changes to: summerindorset@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

4) We are running craft activities and may require staff to provide assistance with this on an individual level. Should they wear PPE if they are within 2 m of the child?

See guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safe-working-in-education-childcare-and-childrens-social-care/safe-working-in-education-childcare-and-childrens-social-care-settings-including-the-use-of-personal-protective-equipment-ppe> (paragraph 6)

Most staff in education, childcare and children’s social care settings will not require PPE beyond what they would normally need for their work, even if they are not always able to maintain a distance of 2 metres from others.

PPE is only needed in a very small number of cases if:

- an individual child, young person or other learner becomes ill with coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms and only then if a distance of 2 metres cannot be maintained

- a child, young person or learner already has routine intimate care needs that involve the use of PPE, in which case the same PPE should continue to be used

5) Are most places offering a 'drop off' service to parents or are parents being encouraged to stay with the children?

We advise that parents/guardians/carers follow any signage indicating entrances and exits to the group settings.

6) We are planning on some picnics with our families, what would be the number?

See guidance:

<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/protective-measures-for-out-of-school-settings-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak#consider-group>

7) Where can I get the link for the risk assessment document?

The link to the risk assessment is: <https://wh1.snapsurveys.com/s.asp?k=159473724123>

8) If I already have a risk assessment in place for my current holiday club, will this be OK or will you still want the risk assessment link completed?

All Summer In Dorset providers are required to complete this new risk assessment which will provide assurance that the settings have taken the necessary steps to be COVID safe.

9) Guidelines say 15 inside - is that including supporting adults?

Yes, this is a maximum of 15 and includes any staff/volunteers/supporting adults.

10) We are wanting to run a community cinema showing, we are thinking that 15 is the maximum allowed indoors? we have a community centre sports hall for the activity so are confused if it goes by the size of the space or 15 ceiling limits?

See guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-digital-culture-media-sport>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/audiences-back-in-theatres-from-1-august>

<https://www.cinemauk.org.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/guidance-for-cinemas/>

11) What do parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak?

We would recommend signposting parents to the relevant national guidance found on the guidance document provided by Public Health Dorset. The list can also be found on the last three slides of the webinar PowerPoint.

This document may also be useful: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do>

12) Is there guidance for parents and carers of children attending out-of-school settings during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak?

See guidance:

[What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#)

[Guidance for parents and carers of children attending out-of-school settings during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#)

[Staying safe outside your home](#)

13) Do we need to clean thoroughly between groups?

Yes – Clean, clean, clean!!

See guidance:

[COVID-19: cleaning of non-healthcare settings](#)