

OFFICIAL

Out of school settings action card – Easter In Dorset

Version: 1.0	Last updated: 23/02/2021
When should this guide be used:	Setting context:
<p>Action cards should be used by settings as a guide to coordinate the local response to quickly identify and contain any potential COVID-19 outbreaks.</p> <p>‘General Guidelines’ should be followed at all times to reduce the risk of contracting COVID-19. They should support, not replace, discussion with Public Health Dorset, Public Health England, Local Authorities, and Local Community Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Teams.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This card applies to specifically to the Easter In Dorset project for out of school settings. • The groups provided as part of this project will take place during Easter school holidays across a range of settings, ages and needs. • For the purpose of this document “out of school settings” refer specifically to Easter In Dorset groups
Where you can access more information	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protective measures for out-of-school settings during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak • Guidance for parents and carers of children attending out-of-school settings during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak • Safe working in education, childcare and children’s social care settings, including the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) • COVID-19: cleaning in non-healthcare settings • Staying safe outside your home 	
General guidelines to prevent spread of COVID-19	
<p>There are important actions that children, parents and staff can take to help prevent the spread of the virus. In all out of school settings, preventing the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) involves dealing with direct transmission (from close contact with those sneezing and coughing) and indirect transmission (via touching contaminated surfaces). A range of approaches and actions should be employed that create a hierarchy of controls that create an inherently safer system (please see the guidance above & the Public Health Dorset Easter in Dorset guidance document for more advice). These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • minimising contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms (new persistent cough, fever, or a loss of sense of smell and / or taste), or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend any out of school settings. • individuals with coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms should be kept separate, go home as soon as possible, and arrange to have a test. They can do this by visiting NHS.UK to arrange or contact NHS 119 via telephone if they do not have internet access. Their household members should also go home and self-isolate for 10 days or until the individual who had symptoms tests negative. • if/when an individual tests positive, the rest of their group (within their out of school setting) should be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 10 days if they have been in close contact as per the government definitions. The other household members of that wider group do not need to self-isolate unless someone in their household subsequently develops symptoms. • cleaning hands more often than usual - wash hands thoroughly for 20 seconds with running water and soap and dry them thoroughly. Alternatively, you can use alcohol hand rub or sanitiser but must make sure that all dirt is removed before and ensure that all parts of the hands are covered with sanitiser. 	

- [enhanced cleaning regimens](#), including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often using Chlorine-based products.
- minimising social contact or mixing, as much as possible, by altering the environment (such as room layout) and timetables (such as staggered break times). Please see your setting specific guidance listed above as well as the generic [guidance](#) for more advice.
- alternative provisions should follow the same principles and guidance as those in place for mainstream schools.
- wearing a face covering or face mask in these out of school settings is not recommended.
- the majority of staff in out of school settings will not require PPE beyond what they would normally need for their work (please see [guidance](#) for more advice). However, they should have a small supply ready for use, if someone becomes symptomatic on site and needs caring for.

Clinically vulnerable individuals are those considered to be at a higher risk of severe illness from coronavirus (COVID-19). Adults in this group have been advised to take extra care in observing social distancing and should work from home where possible. For children in this group, under the care of a secondary care clinician, parents should follow medical advice. For further advice for managing individuals who are shielding or who are clinically vulnerable please refer to the [guidance](#).

Support, reporting & case management – contact details

Support & advice

If you have a general enquiry and wish to speak to someone for advice you can contact Public Health Dorset using the Health Protection dedicated email address: publichealth-hp@dorsetcc.gov.uk

Reporting: single case of COVID-19

Groups must report single confirmed cases of COVID-19 in **staff** or **children** attending the setting, to all agencies/colleagues listed below (including out of hours):

Public Health Dorset – publichealth-hp@dorsetcc.gov.uk
Easter in Dorset - easterindorset@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Reporting: 2 or more confirmed cases or 2nd cases or subsequent/further cases of COVID-19

Groups must report multiple confirmed cases of COVID-19 in **staff** or **children** attending the setting, to all agencies/colleagues listed below (including out of hours):

Public Health Dorset – publichealth-hp@dorsetcc.gov.uk
Easter in Dorset - easterindorset@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Public Health Dorset will direct you to report to Public Health England SW Health Protection Team (PHE HPT) for the following circumstances only:

- you've taken the action outlined but are still seeing more cases
- you're thinking you might need to close because of the number of people affected
- somebody in your education setting has been admitted to hospital; You're getting significant interest from local media

If you need to contact Public Health England SW Health Protection Team (PHE HPT), following discussion with Public Health Dorset, please call: **0300 303 8162**

Actions in an outbreak: what you should do in the event of a COVID-19 outbreak: – 2 or more cases, 2nd cases or subsequent/additional cases

- Continue to follow 'General Guidelines' to reduce risk (above).
- Public Health Dorset will undertake a risk assessment and conduct a rapid investigation and advise on the most appropriate action to take. Children within the same Easter In Dorset groups who have been identified as close contacts will be asked to self-isolate at home. In some cases, a larger number of other attendees may be asked to self-isolate at home as a precautionary measure – perhaps the whole group or site. Where settings are observing guidance on infection prevention and control, which will reduce risk of transmission, closure of the whole setting will not generally be necessary.
- Depending on the risk assessment outcome, Public Health Dorset may establish an Outbreak Control Team to help manage the situation.
- Public Health Dorset will lead the response and investigations, and work with you to put appropriate interventions in place.

What interventions might be put in place to control the outbreak?

Public Health Dorset will work with you to put appropriate interventions in place. These will generally include ensuring that the preventive measures described in '*General guidelines to prevent spread of COVID-19*' above are fully implemented. Other measures may include:

- **Cleaning in the workplace** for cleaning and waste management, refer to guidance on [cleaning in non-healthcare settings](#) for maintaining hygiene.
- **Information:** ensure that children and staff are aware of what has happened, and the actions being taken.
- **Closure:** this is rarely needed in larger settings to control an outbreak as long as the appropriate infection prevention measures have been put in place beforehand. In the case of smaller groups; if all children are sent home, the setting will subsequently close as there would be no children in attendance. This should only be done following advice from Public Health Dorset and the local authority.

Reference Document(s):

- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings](#)
- [COVID-19: getting tested](#)
- [Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)