



Guidance for schools for pupils with Individual Health Care Plans (IHCP), Intimate Care Plans (ICP) and Personal Emergency Evacuation Plans (PEEP) in the light of COVID-19 Restrictions

Guidance from Welsh Government is to take all reasonable measures to maintain a physical distance however in the care of children routinely requiring intimate care and some health care needs this is not possible and proportionate action should be taken where it is practicable to do so.

Many children with IHCP and ICPs will have co-existing medical conditions which mean that they have been advised to shield and should not attend school. However a significant number of children are able to attend school and providing for their health and intimate care needs should not be a barrier to attendance. It is recognised that due to the age and personal requirements of some pupils this will undoubtedly be difficult to achieve and therefore physical distancing is not in these cases considered a reasonable measure.

Schools should review their policies and all individual plans in collaboration with health care professionals if they were involved in the creation of the plan, taking into account Covid-19 guidance on the use of PPE.

Amended plans should be discussed with and agreed by parents. Parents should be provided with a copy and a signed copy should be kept by school.

When undertaking health or intimate care, this can include personal, hands-on care such as washing, toileting, or first aid and certain clinical procedures such as assisted feeding, the following PPE should be used:

- Gloves and aprons should be used when providing intimate care to a child or young person. This can include personal, hands-on care such as washing, toileting, or first aid and certain clinical procedures such as assisted feeding.
- Fluid-resistant surgical mask and eye protection should also be worn if a risk assessment determines that there is a risk of splashing to the eyes such as from coughing, spitting, or vomiting.
- Gloves, fluid repellent gown, FFP3 mask and eye protection are indicated when undertaking aerosol generating procedures such as suction.
- Gloves and aprons should be used when cleaning equipment or surfaces that might be contaminated with body fluids such as saliva or respiratory secretions

The local authority will supply all schools with PPE. Staff using PPE should follow Public Health Wales Guidance relating to the correct procedures for putting on and removing PPE.

Schools will also need to consider the availability of trained staff to provide care and ensure that they have contingency plans in place should the usual member of staff be unavailable due to shielding or becoming unwell to ensure this does not become a barrier to the child's attendance at school.

Please refer to full Appendix 4 - General Guidance to School Staff Working - PPE & social distancing for further information.

GENERAL GUIDANCE TO SCHOOL STAFF WORKING - PPE & SOCIAL DISTANCING

1. PPE - Rhondda Cynon Taf Council - Schools COVID-19 Personal Protective Equipment Guidance Matrix – V2 – 11-06-20

Introduction

It is important to remember that physical distancing, hand hygiene and respiratory **hygiene** (catching a cough or sneeze in a tissue or covering the mouth and nose with an elbow or sleeve) remain strongly evidenced to be the most effective ways to prevent the spread of coronavirus. Hand hygiene is critical before and after all direct contact with a child or young person, and after cleaning equipment and the environment. There is therefore no need to use personal protective equipment (PPE) when undertaking routine educational activities in classroom/school settings. The list below covers when PPE may be required. Further guidance is available at <https://gov.wales/keep-education-safe-operational-guidance-schools-and-settings-covid-19>

Activity / Task / Circumstance	Context	Disposable Gloves	Disposable Plastic Apron	Fluid Resistant Surgical Mask	Eye Protection
Routine Activities	No PPE is required when undertaking routine educational activities in classroom or school settings.				
Suspected coronavirus (COVID-19)	If a child or young person becomes unwell with symptoms of COVID-19 and needs direct personal care.	√ Single use	√ Single use	√ Single use	X – Risk Assess
	When cleaning the areas where a person suspected of having COVID-19 has been.	√ Single use	√ Single use		

Activity / Task / Circumstance	Context	Disposable Gloves	Disposable Plastic Apron	Fluid-resistant Surgical Mask	Fluid Repellent Gown	FFP3 Mask	Eye Protection
Intimate Care	When providing intimate care to a child or young person. This can include personal, hands-on care such as washing, toileting, or first aid and certain clinical procedures such as assisted feeding.	√ Single use	√ Single use	X – Risk Assess			X – Risk Assess
	When undertaking aerosol generating procedures such as suction.	√ Single use			√ Single use	√ Single use	√ Single use (clean & re-use)
	When cleaning equipment or surfaces that might be contaminated with body fluids such as saliva or respiratory secretions.	√ Single use	√ Single use				

X Risk Assess = If a risk assessment determines that there is a risk of splashing to the eyes such as from coughing, spitting, or vomiting.

Guidance

The use of PPE by staff within education settings should be based on a clear assessment of risk, taking into account each individual setting and the needs of the individual learner. Schools, settings and local authorities already have risk assessments processes in place which should be used to identify the need for the use of PPE. Following any risk assessment, where the need for PPE has been identified, it should be readily available and provided. Further information has been provided by the [Health and Safety Executive](#):