

ACL update no 27

Dear All

Thank you to everyone who has adapted their provision again due to the hopefully shorter lockdown that we are now under. Please do remember the wellbeing resources on our VLE which support those who are struggling with the new restrictions. ([keeping mentally well during social isolation](#))

If you come across anything that you think would benefit other providers do please let me know and I will add it to the weekly updates. Please do share what you think is relevant to your contacts.

Please do contact us if you need anything else.

Keep safe and well

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HA upcoming CPD Events

- Principles of online learning 17th November 3-4pm

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/119443941043>

January dates for Safeguarding and British Values coming soon.

Ofsted Report

You will find the report from Ofsted attached, please do spend time reading it. The report acknowledges all the hard work everyone has put in to ensure the continuation of our adult community learning provision.

Latest Government Guidance

In addition to the information below HOLEX have asked for specific guidance on education settings:

Their response is- the [regulations](#) laid in parliament have specific exemptions for libraries and community centres to continue to be available for use for the purposes of education and training. There is a general exception to the 'stay at home' regs 'for the purposes of education or training', which covers adult community education.

This makes it clear that there is still a need to continue with safe face to face learning in community settings.

The DFE has published guidance on how the new national restrictions, which came into force yesterday (5 November 2020), will affect FE and adult education. It builds upon guidance first published in July. The main difference is the need to consider moving more online while at the same time remaining open

The guidance is available here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/education-and-childcare-settings-new-national-restrictions-from-5-november-2020>

The press notice is available here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-early-years>

Clinically extremely vulnerable

DHSC has published guidance on the **clinically extremely vulnerable**.

The guidance is available here:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19#work>

Those individuals who are clinically extremely vulnerable are advised to work from home and not to go into work. Individuals in this group will have been identified through a letter from the NHS or from their GP and may have been advised to shield in the past. Staff should talk to their employers about how they will be supported, including to work from home where possible, during the period of national restrictions.

All other staff should continue to attend work, including those living in a household with someone who is clinically extremely vulnerable.

Clinically vulnerable staff and children

Staff and children who are clinically vulnerable or have underlying health conditions but are **not** clinically extremely vulnerable, may continue to attend early years and childcare settings in line with current guidance.

Most children originally identified as clinically extremely vulnerable are no longer identified as such. Schools should encourage parents to speak to their GP or specialist clinician, as soon as possible, if they have not already done so, to understand whether their child should still be classed as clinically extremely vulnerable.

Those children whose doctors have confirmed they are still clinically extremely vulnerable are advised not to attend school whilst this advice is in place. Where a meeting with a GP or specialist clinician has not taken place, the public health advice is that the child is still clinically extremely vulnerable and should not attend school.

Face coverings

Early years settings

There is no change to the existing position. It is not mandatory for staff and visitors to wear face coverings. In situations where social distancing between adults in settings is not possible (for example when moving around in corridors and communal areas), settings have the discretion to recommend the use of face coverings for adults on site, for both staff and visitors.

Primary schools

In primary schools and education settings teaching year 6 and below, there is no change to the existing position. It is not mandatory for staff and visitors to wear face coverings. In situations, outside of classrooms, where social distancing between adults in settings is not possible (for example when moving around in corridors and communal areas), settings have the discretion to recommend the use of face coverings for adults on site, for both staff and visitors.

Secondary schools

During the national restrictions, in schools where pupils in year 7 and above are educated, face coverings should be worn by adults and pupils when moving around the premises, outside of classrooms, such as in corridors and communal areas where social distancing cannot easily be maintained. This was already the case for pupils in year 7 and above, and staff and visitors for those schools that were in areas where local alert level 'high' and 'very high'.

FE colleges and adult education

In further education colleges, face coverings should be worn by adults and students when moving around the premises, outside of classrooms, in corridors and communal areas where social distancing cannot easily be maintained.

Face coverings should also be worn when travelling on public transport or dedicated transport to secondary schools and further education colleges.

Some individuals are exempt from wearing face coverings and we expect adults and pupils to be sensitive to those needs. No-one should be excluded from education on the grounds that they are not wearing a face covering.