

Classroom practices - minimising the transmission of the Coronavirus

This guidance applies from September 2020

The following guidance will help us to maintain a healthy classroom environment and minimise the transmission of the Coronavirus. Adults (essentially teachers, cover supervisors and learning support assistants) in the classroom have a duty to ensure that social distancing and good hygiene is practised as effectively as possible. This guidance applies to all classroom contexts.

- Keep a good flow of air through the classroom wherever possible. Windows and classroom doors should be open to allow good air circulation. Do not prop open 'Fire Doors'.
- Ask the students if they have washed their hands before they enter the room. If they haven't then ask them to use the hand sanitiser. Note Science and DT hand sanitiser is alcohol free to ensure that CLEAPSS health and safety regulations are followed.
- The classroom desks will be arranged in rows facing the front of the classroom. Where there is an opportunity to spread the class out to create maximum space between them then this should take place. Seating plans will need to be devised to take into account the classroom layout and all of the usual student needs.
- Depending on the location of the room, arrangements will need to be made to ensure that lining up routines are well observed. This might require the member of staff to have the students lining up outside.
- Students should enter the room in a calm and ordered way. This will need to be supervised by the member of staff.
- Remind students of good hygiene at the start of each lesson and remind them that tissues are available and that they must be disposed of in the lidded bin. Students should use the hand sanitiser after using the bin.
- You will need to think carefully about how staff are deployed in the lesson. Staff will need to support the students with their learning and will need to circulate around the room to provide help. Staff should keep a safe distance away from students and other members of staff and avoid situations that might result in direct face to face contact. Ideally staff will maintain 2 metre distance from each other and from children. Where this is not possible staff should minimise time spent within 1 metre of anyone.
- Movement within the classroom needs to be minimised so students will need to remain in their seats. Group or pair work needs to be appropriately socially distanced.
- Students should not be allowed to leave the lesson unless there is an emergency.
- Students will only be able to use their own equipment. Any shared equipment used in class must be cleaned afterwards.
- If a student becomes unwell then they should be referred to student services as usual.
- After the lesson has ended students will wipe down all surfaces including tables and chairs before the room is used again.
- The class should be dismissed in a supervised and orderly manner so that students do not all leave the classroom at once.