

Department for Education

This is your daily email to keep you updated on the government's response to coronavirus (COVID-19).

Guidance for parents and carers on supporting their children's education during the coronavirus outbreak

We have published information, guidance and support for parents and carers of children who are learning at home during the coronavirus outbreak.

Guidance on helping secondary school children continue their education during the coronavirus outbreak can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-secondary-school-children-continue-their-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

We have updated our guidance on helping primary school aged children learn at home to include information on the wider opening of educational settings.

The guidance can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-primary-school-children-continue-their-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

Updated guidance on early years initial teacher training requirements

We have updated our guidance for early years initial teacher training (ITT) providers on entry requirements and the process if entrants to early years ITT are unable to demonstrate the required

GCSE equivalent entry standard, as a consequence of the coronavirus outbreak.

The guidance can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-itt-requirements-supporting-advice>

University students collecting their belongings from student accommodation

We have updated our guidance for higher education providers to include information on students wishing to leave their student accommodation or return to collect their belongings in England.

The guidance on leaving or returning to collect belongings from student accommodation can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-he-providers-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak>

The information below has not changed since yesterday.

Guidance on the wider opening of education and childcare settings

Guidance on the actions for education and childcare settings to prepare for wider opening from 1 June, at the earliest, can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-educational-and-childcare-settings-to-prepare-for-wider-opening-from-1-june-2020>

Guidance on implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings>

Guidance for parents and carers as schools and other education settings in England open to more children and young people can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

Department for Education coronavirus helpline – Monday 25 May Bank Holiday opening hours

The Department for Education coronavirus helpline is available to answer questions about COVID-19 relating to education and children's social care.

Phone: 0800 046 8687

The helpline will remain open over the May Bank Holiday weekend for staff, parents and young people as follows:

10am to 4pm – Saturday, Sunday and Monday

Our standard opening hours will resume on Tuesday 26 May:

8am to 6pm – Monday to Friday

10am to 4pm – Saturday and Sunday

If you work in a school, please have your unique reference number (URN or UK PRN) available when calling the helpline

Handwashing advice

It is essential that everyone washes their hands more often, using soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Hand washing with soap employs mechanical action that loosens bacteria and viruses from the skin, rinsing them into the drain. Drying hands afterwards makes the skin less hospitable to the virus. Hand sanitiser can be effective if soap is not available or the situation makes using soap less feasible (i.e. when outside) but using hand sanitiser provides none of the virus-destroying friction that rubbing your hands together and rinsing with water provides.

The latest guidance and video on hand washing can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

The e-Bug project is led by Public Health England and has a dedicated webpage for learning resources on hand washing and respiratory hygiene.

Resources are currently available for KS1, KS2 and KS3 and can be used in various settings including schools and at home:

<https://e-bug.eu/>

Collection of guidance for educational settings on GOV.UK

All of the Department for Education's coronavirus guidance for educational settings can be found in one place on GOV.UK at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-schools-and-other-educational-settings>