

Protocol for children seen by the School Nursing service in the school environment during COVID-19 pandemic

Introduction

Suffolk County Council Children and Young Peoples service has a duty to safeguard and support Suffolk's children, young people, and families. Parents, schools and Children and Young People share a responsibility to minimise the risk of transferring the Covid-19 infection.

All visits will be assessed in the context of the setting's own risk assessment and the approach being taken in the autumn term. It is the responsibility of the individual school to ensure that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

Practitioners will only visit one school setting each day to minimise risk.

Suffolk County Council School Nursing service staff will not enter schools if they have COVID symptoms or have tested positive in the last 10 days

Infection control principles must always be followed and adhered to. Annual infection prevention and control mandatory training must be up to date.

https://improvement.nhs.uk/documents/4957/National_policy_on_hand_hygiene_and_PPE_2.pdf

Visits to classroom

- School Nursing practitioner will visit reception class to introduce themselves prior to screening and donning of PPE if this is acceptable to the school

The use of personal protective equipment (PPE).

- PPE consisting of gloves and apron will be worn for each individual child and for the cleaning of equipment between each child. Face masks will be sessional as stipulated in current local guidance.
- Storage of PPE – The correct amount of PPE will be taken to the school in a black rubbish bag. This bag will contain four separate bags one of gloves, one of aprons, one with face mask and one with a second black rubbish bag for double bagging prior to disposal at the end of the screening session. This can then all be kept within the same room as the screening is being undertaken. Staff will ensure that the outer black bag is closed in between removing items. Items will be removed as required for each child / cleaning of equipment.
- Disposal of PPE – all used PPE will be disposed of in black rubbish bag as soon as it is removed. At the end of the session this will be placed in the

additional black bag ie double bagged and left for the school's general rubbish.

Cleaning of surfaces and equipment.

- All surfaces in screening room to be cleaned with recommended wipes at the beginning and end of each session.
- All equipment to be cleaned prior to start of session, in between each child and at the end of the session. This must include any surfaces touched by the child and any chairs etc used.
- Toys for use with audio screen – these will be cleaned after every child.

Clean hands more thoroughly than usual

- Hand sanitiser will be used in between each use of PPE or before and after every child is screened and before and after cleaning any worksurface or equipment. Hand sanitiser can only be used up to a maximum of 5 times and then hands to be washed thoroughly for 20 seconds with liquid soap and warm water and dried thoroughly
http://antibioticguardian.com/assets/Handwashing_technique_NHS-1.jpg
- School will need to ensure that there is easy access to handwashing facilities throughout the session to ensure compliance with the above.

Minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible

- Collection of children – if masks are unable to be worn to collect children from the classroom, teaching staff will have to bring the children to the screening room.

Comply with the NHS Test and Trace process

- Schools to be given the Health Business Hub contact number for all visits to school – 03456078866 <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-test-and-trace-how-it-works>