

Cleaning and Hygiene

This information is taken from the Government guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings>

Background

The risk of coronavirus (COVID-19) infection depends on many factors, including:

- the type of surface contaminated
- the amount of virus shed from the individual
- the time the individual spent in the setting
- the time since the individual was last in the setting

Surfaces and belongings can be contaminated with COVID-19 when people who are infectious cough or sneeze or touch them. Transmission of COVID-19 can occur when someone else then touches the contaminated surface or item. The person may become infected if they touch their nose, eyes or mouth with a contaminated hand or object. Increased frequency of cleaning of general room surfaces reduces the presence of the virus and the risk of contact.

The infection risk from a COVID-19 contaminated environment decreases over time. It is not yet clear at what point there is no risk from the virus, however, **studies suggest that, in non-healthcare settings, the risk of residual infectious virus is likely to be significantly reduced after 48 hours.**

In situations where someone has symptoms of COVID-19, we continue to advise storing personal waste for 72 hours as an additional precaution.

Cleaning and disinfection

Disposable cloths and anti-bacterial spray or disinfectant to be available in each classroom and the office to enable cleaning of frequently touched surfaces by staff in those areas. **This should be done at least once during the day.**

Frequently touched areas include all surfaces and especially ones that are touched frequently:

- Door handles
- Light switches
- Work surfaces
- Remote controls
- Electronic devices

Cloths to be disposed of in 'tissue' bin

Shared resources frequently used in a bubble will be cleaned daily or rotated. Children will be taught to wash their hands between using resources. Resources are left for 48 hours over the weekend by the teacher and TA. **N.B plastic resources will need to be left for 72 hours.**

Any resources shared between bubbles will need to be cleaned between use by a bubble or left for 48 hours (72 for plastic)

Toilets, basin areas, light switches and door handles will be cleaned at the end of lunchtime by:

Wrestlingworth - Sarah
Dunton - Amanda

As a minimum, frequently touched surfaces should be wiped down twice a day, and **one of these should be at the beginning or the end of the working day. (This will be done by cleaning staff)**

When cleaning surfaces, it is not necessary to wear personal protective equipment (PPE) or clothing over and above what would usually be used.

It is very unlikely that COVID-19 is transmitted through food. However, as a matter of [good hygiene practice](#), anyone handling food should wash their hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds before doing so. Crockery and eating utensils should not be shared. Clean frequently touched surfaces regularly.

Hygiene

Staff must follow and children will be taught/reminded of hand washing methods
<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/best-way-to-wash-your-hands/>

Hand washing should take place **at least**:

- On arrival at school
- After using the toilet
- Before and after playtime
- Before and after lunchtime
- Before leaving school

Ensure tissues and hand gel are easily accessible to all and teach/remind of 'catch it, bin it, kill it' - put used tissues in the tissue bin and then wash hands.

Children will be taught to ensure toilet lids (where present) are closed and toilets are flushed

'Tissue' pedal bins in classrooms to be emptied, double bagged and put in dustbin at lunchtime and at the end of the day by staff. Pedal bins and lidded bins in toilets and communal areas to be emptied at lunchtime and end of day by staff on rota.

Principles of cleaning after an individual with symptoms of, or confirmed COVID-19, the case has left the setting or area

Personal protective equipment (PPE)

The minimum PPE to be worn for cleaning an area after a person with symptoms of, or confirmed COVID-19 has left the setting is disposable gloves and an apron.
Wash hands with soap and water for 20 seconds after all PPE has been removed.

Cleaning and disinfection

Public areas where a symptomatic person has passed through and spent minimal time but which are not visibly contaminated with body fluids, such as corridors, can be **cleaned thoroughly as normal.**

All surfaces that the symptomatic person has come into contact with should be cleaned and disinfected, including all potentially contaminated and frequently touched

areas such as bathrooms, door handles, telephones, grab rails in corridors and stairwells.

Use disposable cloths or paper roll and disposable mop heads, to clean all hard surfaces, floors, chairs, door handles and sanitary fittings – think one site, one wipe, in one direction.

Use one of the options below:

- **a combined detergent disinfectant solution at a dilution of 1,000 parts per million available chlorine (ppm av.cl.)**

or

- **a household detergent followed by disinfection (1000 ppm av.cl.).** Follow manufacturer's instructions for dilution, application and contact times for all detergents and disinfectants

or

- **if an alternative disinfectant is used within the organisation ensure that it is effective against enveloped viruses**

Avoid mixing cleaning products together as this can create toxic fumes. Avoid creating splashes and spray when cleaning.

Any cloths and mop heads used must be disposed of and should be put into waste bags as [outlined below](#).

When items cannot be cleaned using detergents or laundered, for example, upholstered furniture and mattresses, steam cleaning should be used.

Laundry

Wash items in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Use the warmest water setting and dry items completely. Dirty laundry that has been in contact with an unwell person can be washed with other people's items. To minimise the possibility of dispersing virus through the air, do not shake dirty laundry prior to washing.

Clean and disinfect anything used for transporting laundry with your usual products, in line with the cleaning guidance above.

Waste

Personal waste from individuals with symptoms of COVID-19 and waste from cleaning of areas where they have been (including PPE, disposable cloths and used tissues):

- 1. Should be put in a plastic rubbish bag and tied when full**
- 2. The plastic bag should then be placed in a second bin bag and tied**
- 3. This should be put in a suitable and secure place and marked for storage until the individual's test results are known**

This waste should be stored safely and kept away from children. **It should not be placed in communal waste areas until negative test results are known, or the waste has been stored for at least 72 hours.**

If the individual tests negative, this can be disposed of immediately with the normal waste.

If COVID-19 is confirmed this waste should be stored for at least 72 hours before disposal with normal waste.

If during an emergency you need to remove the waste before 72 hours, it must be treated as Category B infectious waste. You must:

- keep it separate from your other waste
- arrange for collection by a specialist contractor as hazardous waste

There will be a charge for this service.

Other household waste can be disposed of as normal.

