

# Covid-19 safety in schools

## Dos and Don'ts



### Marking



**DO** ensure measures are in place to handle pupils' work safely, through online systems or with quarantine arrangements.

**DON'T** take books home for marking unless protective measures are in place.

### Face coverings



**DO** argue that face coverings should be worn by adults and pupils in year 7 and above when moving around school or college.

**DON'T** accept that anyone, staff or pupil, should be prevented from wearing a face covering if it helps them feel safer.

### Ventilation



**DO** ensure working areas are well-ventilated and at a comfortable working temperature.

**DON'T** accept that it's impossible to achieve a balance between the two.

### Sharing information when outbreaks occur



**DO** argue for a policy of maximum openness when cases or outbreaks occur.

**DON'T** tolerate the withholding of information about classes or year groups affected by cases or suspected cases.

### Cleaning



**DO** raise concerns if your school isn't being properly cleaned.

**DON'T** take on cleaning duties if you are not employed as a cleaner.

### Handwashing and sanitising



**DO** raise concerns if hand washing/sanitising systems for staff and pupils aren't working.

**DON'T** allow hand washing and sanitising standards to drop.

### Bubbles



**DO** insist that bubbles are kept as small as possible.

**DON'T** tolerate bubbles being routinely breached.

### Staff at higher risk



**DO** check your working arrangements are based on a risk assessment which take into account your circumstances and the prevalence of the virus locally. Clinically extremely vulnerable staff should work from home.

**DON'T** accept that individual risk assessments are set in stone – they must be revised as circumstances change.

### Social distancing



**DO** argue for PPE where staff cannot maintain distance from pupils who cannot control behaviour.

**DON'T** accept that large gatherings – such as staff or parents' evenings – take place other than remotely.

### Workload



**DO** ensure that normal entitlements, such as lunch breaks, directed time limits and PPA time, are adhered to.

**DON'T** agree to learning walks, book scrutiny and lesson observations, or other non-essential, in-school accountability processes that just cause stress and risk spreading the virus.

These are minimum standards for keeping everyone safe and ensuring reasonable working conditions. If you and members are concerned about what is happening in your workplace, use our escalation guidance available on the link below.



[neu.org.uk/coronavirus-reps](https://neu.org.uk/coronavirus-reps)  
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