

Definitions for declaring an outbreak in Education, children and young people's settings



Declaration	Criteria	Criteria to End
Cases requiring further investigation/ confirmed case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One confirmed COVID-19 case One confirmed COVID-19 case and 1 suspected case within the school or bubble Two suspected cases in a bubble 	28 days since the onset of the last confirmed case in the school/ college/setting
Cases requiring further investigation (II) Classified as clusters in PHE-LA MOU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two or more confirmed cases of COVID-19 among children or staff in the school/early years setting or a school within 14 days <p>or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in background rate of absence due to suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 (does not include absence rate due to individuals shielding or self-isolating as contacts of cases). 	No confirmed cases with onset dates in the last 28 days in that setting
Confirmed Outbreak	<p>Two or more confirmed cases of COVID-19 among students/children or staff who are direct close contacts, proximity contacts or in the same cohort or 'bubble'* in the school/ college/early years setting within 14 days.</p> <p>*a cohort or 'bubble' might be a class, year group or other defined group within the school/college/early years setting</p>	No confirmed cases with onset dates in the last 28 days in that setting

Contact definitions

A 'contact' is a person who has been close to someone who has tested positive for coronavirus whilst they were infectious (see 'Infectious Period' below). The following criteria should be used when defining a contact of a case:

i) Direct close contacts:

Direct face to face to face contact with a case for any length of time, including being coughed on or talked to. This will also include exposure within 1 metre for 1 minute or longer.

OR

ii) Proximity contacts:

Extended close contact (within 1-2m for more than 15 minutes) with a case.

OR

iii) Travelled in a small vehicle with a case or bigger van/ transport where social distancing was not maintained

Infectious Period: from 48 hrs prior to symptom onset to 10 days after, or 48 hrs prior to test if asymptomatic