

Addendum to First Aid Policy 2020-21

At Ballinderry Primary School and Nursery Unit, we have agreed that we will continue to provide first aid with care during the Covid- 19 pandemic as previously. We recognise that children may need our support to deal with an injury. The following adjustments have been made to support safe working practices.

Procedures for dealing with a symptomatic person on – site

If anyone becomes unwell with:

- A new, continuous cough
- A high temperature/fever
- Anosmia (loss or change in your normal sense of smell or taste)

they must be sent home and advised to follow the PHA guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection.

Actions to be taken:

- Arrange to send the child home. Complete the school pro-forma recording this and ask parent/ guardian to sign.
- While waiting for collection, move child to the Learning Support room. Open the window. An adult must supervise. Child may use the disabled toilet if necessary and all areas the child has been in contact with must be thoroughly cleaned before next use.
- Supervising staff should wear PPE if direct personal care is needed and the adult cannot maintain a distance of 2 metres.
- PPE consists of: disposable gloves, disposable plastic apron, fluid-repellent mask, face visor or eye- goggles
- Where PPE is used, it must be used properly. This includes scrupulous hand hygiene and following Public Health Agency Guidance on the donning and doffing of PPE safely to reduce the risk of contamination.
- Face masks must cover both mouth and nose; must be changed when they become moist or damaged; must be worn once and then discarded; hands must be cleaned after disposal of the face mask; masks must not be allowed to dangle around the neck; masks must not be touched once put on, except when carefully removed before disposal.
- If the child is seriously ill or their life is at risk, in the first instance contact the First Aider (Mr Mehaffy, Mrs Glover, Mrs Cook). Contact the Principal/ Mrs Ritchie. In an emergency, call 999.
- If you have helped a child with symptoms, wash your hands thoroughly, there is no need to go home. PPE should be disposed of in a double plastic bag, sealed prior to disposal.

When providing First Aid

- Consider whether you may be able to provide instructions to the injured person or pass them items to treat minor injuries.
- Maintain 2 metre distance and infection control measures as much as is possible.
- Use PPE as required in situations of close contact.

Cardio- Pulmonary Resuscitation

- If someone collapses with a possible cardiac arrest, check for danger in the surrounding area, then call for help.
- In adults, it is recommended that you do not perform rescue breaths or mouth-to-mouth ventilation; perform chest compressions only.
- Recognise cardiac arrest by looking for the absence of signs of life and the absence of normal breathing. Do not listen for breathing by placing your ear/cheek close to the patient's mouth unless you are wearing a face- mask. If you are in any doubt, the default position is to start chest compressions until help arrives.
- Make sure an ambulance is on the way. If the individual is suspected to have Covid-19, make the operator aware when you dial 999.
- If there is a perceived risk of infection, the First Aider should wear a face mask and attempt compression only CPR and early defibrillation until the ambulance arrives. Put hands together in the middle of the chest and push hard and fast.
- Early use of a defibrillator significantly increases a person's chance of survival and does not increase risk of infection.
- After performing compression - only CPR, the First Aider should wash their hands thoroughly and seek the advice of a medical adviser or NHS 111.
- Cardiac Arrest in children is more likely to be caused by a respiratory problem, therefore chest compressions alone are unlikely to be effective. If a decision is made to perform mouth-to-mouth ventilation in these cases, use a resuscitation shield where available.

First Aider Actions

- If you have been in close contact with a person who is symptomatic and/or have given mouth-to-mouth ventilation, monitor yourself for symptoms of possible Covid-19 over the following 14 days.
- Wipe down the First Aid box used with a disinfectant wipe.
- Replace used PPE as required.
- Record the incident in the Accident Book/ written report as required.

