

How Magic Door Education Ltd is working with the Department for Education's School's Coronavirus (Covid-19) Operational Guidance (12th May 2021)

The Department for Education has listed a system of controls which Magic Door Education Ltd is working alongside whilst we deliver our workshops within primary schools. We have taken excerpts from the DfE guidance below and outlined our response to each measure.

2. Where recommended, use of face coverings in schools

In primary schools where social distancing is not possible in areas outside of classrooms between members of staff or visitors, for example in staffrooms, headteachers will have the discretion to decide whether to ask staff or visitors to wear, or agree to them wearing face coverings in these circumstances.

Based on current evidence and the measures that schools are already putting in place, such as the system of controls and consistent bubbles, face coverings will not be necessary in the classroom even where social distancing is not possible. Face coverings would have a negative impact on teaching and their use in the classroom should be avoided.

Our response: we will work with each individual school's policy on wearing a face covering whilst moving around the school. At a school's request, we will wear a visor whilst delivering workshops.

3. Clean hands thoroughly more often than usual

Coronavirus (COVID-19) is an easy virus to kill when it is on skin. This can be done with soap and running water or hand sanitiser.

Our response: we will wash our hands thoroughly and frequently throughout the day using soap and running water as well as regularly using hand sanitiser. We will provide additional hand sanitiser for use by pupils and staff which we request is used before our resources are handled.

6. Minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible

a. How to group children

Schools should assess their circumstances and if class-sized groups are not compatible with offering a full range of subjects or managing the practical

logistics within and around the school, they can look to implement year group sized 'bubbles'.

All teachers and other staff can operate across different classes and year groups in order to facilitate the delivery of the school timetable. Where staff need to move between classes and year groups, they should try and keep their distance from pupils and other staff as much as they can, ideally 2 metres from other adults...[with younger children] teachers in primary schools can still work across groups if that is needed to enable a full educational offer.

Our response: we will work with and across a school's "bubbles" of children during our workshops where this is required for the day. We will endeavour to maintain a 2 metre distance where possible with other adults and children and always a minimum of 1 metre for minimal time.

b. Measures within the classroom

Maintaining a distance between people whilst inside and reducing the amount of time they are in face to face contact lowers the risk of transmission. Ideally, adults should maintain 2 metre distance from each other, and from children. We know that this is not always possible, particularly when working with younger children, but if adults can do this when circumstances allow that will help. In particular, they should avoid close face to face contact and minimise time spent within 1 metre of anyone.

Schools should make small adaptations to the classroom to support distancing where possible. That should include seating pupils side by side and facing forwards, rather than face to face or side on, and might include moving unnecessary furniture out of classrooms to make more space.

Keep occupied spaces well-ventilated.

Our response: We will endeavour to maintain a 2 metre distance where possible with other adults and children and always a minimum of 1 metre for minimal time. We will also request that good ventilation is maintained throughout our workshops.

Our workshops are delivered through a mixture of delivery from the front and through carousel activities in the classroom. Carousel activities are well-spaced around the perimeter of the room. They are not free-flow and children must work within designated small groups of no more than 6 children, following a one-way system of movement when instructed to by staff. Children will work from one side of the activity tables. We are happy to provide a copy of our room plans on request.

c. Measures elsewhere

Groups should be kept apart, meaning that schools should avoid large gatherings such as assemblies or collective worship with more than one group.

When timetabling, groups should be kept apart and movement around the school site kept to a minimum.

Our response: our workshops run from 9am-3pm and are tailored around each school's break and lunchtimes. We will work with year group bubbles and where these are either 2-form or 3-form entry schools, these days will include a variety of whole cohort learning and class-size group work. For larger cohorts, most of the day will be delivered in from their usual classroom bases with only the first 30 minutes and final 30 minutes of the day spent as a whole cohort in a Hall or similar large space to reduce movement around the school site and to retain the gathering of only one group.

e. Other considerations

Equipment and resources are integral to education in schools. Resources that are shared between classes or bubbles, such as sports, art and science equipment should be cleaned frequently and meticulously and always between bubbles, or rotated to allow them to be left unused and out of reach for a period of 48 hours (72 hours for plastics) between use by different bubbles.

Our response: We will rest our resources for a 72 hour quarantine period between bookings. We will clean equipment that is safe to do so using household disinfectant cleaners, including the boxes that they are transported in. Some of our resources are genuine artefacts and would be damaged by this cleaning process. We have evaluated which are safe to continue to bring into schools at this time and would be safe for use after a 72 hour quarantine period.

e. Other considerations (cont'd)

Peripatetic teachers can move between schools, for instance, but you should consider how to minimise the number of visitors where possible. They will be expected to comply with arrangements for managing and minimising risk, including taking particular care to maintain distance from other staff and pupils.

If a teacher is operating on a peripatetic basis, and operating across multiple groups or individuals, it is important that they do not attend a lesson if they

are unwell or are having any symptoms associated with coronavirus (COVID-19) such as fever, a new and sustained cough, loss of sense of taste or smell. In addition, they should:

- 1. Maintain distancing requirements with each group they teach, where appropriate.*
- 2. Avoid situations where distancing requirements are broken; for an example demonstrating partnering work in dancing.*
- 3. Make efforts to reduce the number of groups taught and locations worked in, to reduce the number of contacts made.*

Our response: We will comply with the regulations detailed above to manage and minimise risk. Should we develop any symptoms associated with COVID-19, we would contact the school as soon as possible to postpone the booking until we had been tested and fulfilled a quarantine period as necessary.

The health and safety of all participants remains our highest priority and we will always work with each individual school's visitor policy to ensure safe working during our visit.

We are undertaking twice weekly rapid flow tests and engage with the NHS Track and Trace process.

We request that we are able to use a toilet facility during our visit. We will bring all of our own food and drink to workshops and will eat lunch in our vehicle where requested to do so.

This policy will be reviewed weekly and in line with any changes to the DfE guidance for schools.

Last updated: 12th May 2021.