

**Government Guidance: Whether individuals can be in school considering the risks of exposure to Coronavirus (12<sup>th</sup> May 2020)**

**Clinically Vulnerable**

**Definition:**

Clinically vulnerable people are those who are:

- aged 70 or older (regardless of medical conditions)
- under 70 with an underlying health condition listed below (that is, anyone instructed to get a flu jab as an adult each year on medical grounds):
  - chronic (long-term) mild to moderate respiratory diseases, such as asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), emphysema or bronchitis
  - chronic heart disease, such as heart failure
  - chronic kidney disease
  - chronic liver disease, such as hepatitis
  - chronic neurological conditions, such as Parkinson’s disease, motor neurone disease, multiple sclerosis (MS), or cerebral palsy
  - diabetes
  - a weakened immune system as the result of certain conditions, treatments like chemotherapy, or medicines such as steroid tablets
  - being seriously overweight (a body mass index (BMI) of 40 or above)
  - pregnant women

<b>Pupils in clinically vulnerable category in School</b>	<b>Staff in clinically vulnerable category in School</b>	<b>Pupils or staff living with someone in clinically vulnerable category</b>
<p>Clinically vulnerable people are those considered to be at a higher risk of severe illness from coronavirus. A small minority of children will fall into this category, and parents should follow medical advice if their child is in this category.</p>	<p>Clinically vulnerable individuals who are at higher risk of severe illness (for example, people with some pre-existing conditions as set out in the <a href="#">Staying at home and away from others (social distancing) guidance</a> have been advised to take extra care in observing social distancing and should work from home where possible. Education and childcare settings should endeavour to support this, for example by asking staff to support remote education, carry out lesson planning or other roles which can be done from home. If clinically vulnerable individuals cannot work from home, they should be offered the safest available on-site roles, staying 2 metres away from others wherever possible, although the individual may choose to take on a role that does not allow for this distance if they prefer to do so. If they have to spend time within 2 metres of other people, settings must carefully assess and discuss with them whether this involves an acceptable level of risk.</p>	<p>If a child, young person or a member of staff lives with someone who is clinically vulnerable including those who are pregnant, they can attend their education or childcare setting.</p>

## Clinically Extremely Vulnerable

**Definition:**

Clinically extremely vulnerable people may include the following people. Disease severity, history or treatment levels will also affect who is in the group:

1. Solid organ transplant recipients.
2. People with specific cancers:
  - people with cancer who are undergoing active chemotherapy
  - people with lung cancer who are undergoing radical radiotherapy
  - people with cancers of the blood or bone marrow such as leukaemia, lymphoma or myeloma who are at any stage of treatment
  - people having immunotherapy or other continuing antibody treatments for cancer
  - people having other targeted cancer treatments which can affect the immune system, such as protein kinase inhibitors or PARP inhibitors
  - people who have had bone marrow or stem cell transplants in the last 6 months, or who are still taking immunosuppression drugs
3. People with severe respiratory conditions including all cystic fibrosis, severe asthma and severe chronic obstructive pulmonary (COPD).
4. People with rare diseases that significantly increase the risk of infections (such as SCID, homozygous sickle cell).
5. People on immunosuppression therapies sufficient to significantly increase risk of infection.
6. Women who are pregnant with significant heart disease, congenital or acquired.

People who fall in this group should have been contacted to tell them they are clinically extremely vulnerable. If you have not received a letter or you have not been contacted by your GP but you're still concerned, you should discuss your concerns with your GP or hospital clinician.

Pupils in clinically extremely vulnerable category in School	Staff in clinically extremely vulnerable category in School	Pupils or staff living with someone in clinically extremely vulnerable category
<p>For the vast majority of children and young people, coronavirus is a mild illness. Children and young people (0 to 18 years of age) who have been <a href="#">classified as clinically extremely vulnerable due to pre-existing medical conditions</a> have been advised to shield. We do not expect these children to be attending school or college, and they should continue to be supported at home as much as possible.</p>	<p>Clinically extremely vulnerable individuals are advised not to work outside the home. We are strongly advising people, including education staff, who are clinically extremely vulnerable (those with serious underlying health conditions which put them at very high risk of severe illness from coronavirus and have been advised by their clinician or through a letter) to rigorously follow shielding measures in order to keep themselves safe. Staff in this position are advised not to attend work.</p>	<p>If a child, young person or staff member lives in a household with someone who is extremely clinically vulnerable, as set out in the <a href="#">COVID-19: guidance on shielding and protecting people defined on medical grounds as extremely vulnerable guidance</a>, it is advised they only attend an education or childcare setting if stringent social distancing can be adhered to and, in the case of children, they are able to understand and follow those instructions. This may not be possible for very young children and older children without the capacity to adhere to the instructions on social distancing. If stringent social distancing cannot be adhered to, we do not expect those individuals to attend. They should be supported to learn or work at home.</p>