**Coronavirus (COVID-19): Risk assessment of education attendance for a child with an Education, Health and Care Plan and/or social worker**

**Introduction**

The majority of the population are urged to stay at home to limit the spread of the virus. However, the DfE guidance sets a clear expectation that settings will stay open to provide for those vulnerable children where education is a protective factor. This includes:

* Vulnerable children with a social worker; who **should** attend a setting as long as they do not have underlying health conditions that puts them at severe risk.
* Children and young people with an EHCP who cannot be safely supported at home
* Children and young people who are otherwise vulnerable and would be safer by attending a setting.

**Reason for completing this risk assessment**

In all cases there will need to be a dynamic risk assessment in place to reflect the constantly changing national picture and the ability of settings and parents/carers to keep children safe. An audit trail of decision making is therefore essential. This should be a **shared risk assessment, with settings, Social Workers, StART, EYSAT Area SENCos, parents and partners** as appropriate.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name:** |  | | **Surname:** |  |
| **Date of birth:** |  | |  |  |
| **Parent/ carer details:** |  | | **Education setting:** |  |
| **EHCP** | **YES** | **NO** |  |  |
| **Social Worker** | **YES** | **NO** | **Name of Social Worker** |  |
| **Name of other Professionals Consulted by assessor** |  | |  |  |

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| **Summary** |
| **Conclusion of health risk assessment**:   * The child is safer at the education provision * The child is safer at home   **Conclusion of safeguarding risk assessment**:   * The child is safer at the education provision * The child is safer at home * Safeguarding Risk Assessment not completed |
| **Overall brief rationale:**  Setting leaders must consult with a health care professional, a social worker, and a local authority education SEIS advisor or Area SENCo in order to complete the Risk Assessment.  Use the following risk assessment principles to determine an outcome:   * What harm are we worried about? * If this happened what would be the impact on the child? * What makes this harm more or less likely? * What have we done to reduce the harm? * What do we need to do now to make harm less likely? * Has this or will this improve life for the child? * What do we need to do now? * When will we review this? |

**Parent/ carer views**

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| Do parent(s) / carer(s) think that their child needs to attend an education setting? | Yes | No |
| Are parent(s) / carers(s) Key workers? | Yes | No |
| If parent(s)/ carer(s) do not feel that their child needs to continue to attend an education setting, do they feel that any specific support is required for the child/ young person to remain safely at home? | Yes | No |
| Please provide details below following a discussion with parent/ carer: | | |

**Voice of the child**  (If appropriate)

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| Does the child think that they need to continue to attend an education setting? | Yes | No |
| If the child does not feel that they need to continue to attend an education setting, do they feel that any specific support is required for them to remain safely at home? | Yes | No |
| If appropriate please provide details below following a discussion with child. | | |
| If the child / young person’s views have not been sought please indicate why; <http://www.ncb.org.uk/resources-publications/listening-way-life-why-how-we-listen-young-children> | | |

**Part A - Underlying health conditions**

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|  | **Yes/No (+ details if necessary)** | **Guidance notes** |
| Do they have an underlying health condition that places them at **very high risk of severe illness** as a result of coronavirus which requires them to follow shielding measures? (see [guidance on shielding](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19)) |  | People who are in this category are strongly advised to stay at home at all times and avoid any face-to-face contact for a period of at least 12 weeks. Visits from people who provide essential support, such as healthcare, personal support with daily needs or social care should continue, but carers and care workers must stay away if they have any of the symptoms of coronavirus. |
| Do they have any **other underlying health conditions** that make them more vulnerable to serious illness as a result of coronavirus? |  | Assessing the severity of asthma and cystic fibrosis, and so identifying children who are at increased risk, needs to be determined on a case by case basis and in close liaison with local health/respiratory teams. |
| Do they **live in a household** with a person who has an underlying health condition that places them in the most vulnerable category as set out in the [guidance on shielding](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19)? |  | They should only attend a setting if stringent social distancing can be adhered to and the child is able to understand and follow those instructions, which may not be the possible for very young children or children without the capacity to adhere to the instructions on social distancing. |

**Possible risks associated with disrupted access to education, health and care provision**

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|  | Yes/No | Please provide details |
| Are there significant risks to the individual if they do not attend because they will not be able to access provision in their EHCP to meet identified **health** needs? |  |  |
| Are there significant risks to the individual if they do not attend because they will not access provision in their EHCP to meet identified **care** needs? |  |  |
| Are parent/ carers able to ensure that health and care needs can be met safely at home? |  |  |
| Will there be significant difficulties for the individual due to changes in routine or the way that provision is delivered? |  |  |
| Are there significant risks to the individual’s and/or others’ safety and wellbeing by not continuing to attend? |  |  |
| Will an extended period of social distancing at home (e.g. up to 12 weeks) create additional risks to the individual’s wellbeing and/or safety? |  |  |
| Will an extended period of social distancing at home (e.g. up to 12 weeks) create additional risks to ability of their parents/ carers to meet their needs at home? |  |  |

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| **Conclusion of health risk assessment:**   * The child is safer at the education provision * The child is safer at home |
| **Brief description of reason for decision** |

**Part B – Safeguarding Risk Assessment**

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| **Specific safeguarding needs** | **Safeguarding risk if at home for four weeks or more** | **Control Measures** |
|  | *For example:*  *Risk to themselves if at home?*  *Risk to their family if at home?*  *Risk in/to the community if at home?*  *Also consider if parents/carers are key workers* |  |
| **Conclusion of safeguarding risk assessment**:   * The pupil or student is safer at the education provision * The pupil or student is safer at home | | |
| **Brief description of reason for decision** | | |

**Outcome**

On balance the decision is that this child/ young person:

Would be safer at the setting **(In this event, Setting provision must be made and maintained. If parent chooses not to send   
 their child to setting, setting should liaise with social care.)**

Would be safer at home **(In this event Setting supports access to learning whilst the child remains at home and carries   
 out regular welfare checks.)**

**The outcome decision must be reviewed in the event of a change of circumstances or, if there has been no change in   
 circumstances, every Half Term.   
  
Risk management plan**

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| **If any risks have been identified above, please provide details of steps that should be taken to mitigate and minimise these risks:** (This must be done whether the child is continuing to attend an education setting or will be remaining at home) | | |
| **Identified risk** | **Mitigation** | **Review date (If any change or at the end of every half term)** |
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| **Name of risk assessor** |  |
| **Date completed** |  |

**Guidance notes**

This risk assessment form is based on the most up-to-date Government guidance:

* [Coronavirus (COVID-19): SEND risk assessment guidance](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-send-risk-assessment-guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-send-risk-assessment-guidance)
* [Coronavirus (COVID-19): implementing social distancing in education and childcare settings](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-social-distancing-in-education-and-childcare-settings/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-social-distancing-in-education-and-childcare-settings)
* [Coronavirus (COVID-19): guidance on vulnerable children and young people](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-vulnerable-children-and-young-people/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-vulnerable-children-and-young-people)