COVID-19

We know some of you will be anxious and some excited about returning to schools and other education settings this term and it is our aim to support you by giving you as much information as possible to prepare for a safe re-entry.

Therefore, we have introduced a COVID-19 Policy and Risk Assessment in relation to the supply of workers (temporary teaching and support staff) into all education settings to support the prevention and control measures they have in place to manage and reduce the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Here for you

We will continue to be available to assist both schools and agency staff; helping to answer your concerns and ensuring you have access to the government support schemes through the furlough scheme, if eligible.

Health, Safety and Well-being

Communication has been and will always be a priority, communicating clearly that our agency workers are to follow government guidelines to manage their personal risk of infection if they are experiencing any symptoms or if they are living with someone with symptoms.

Prior to an agency worker being placed into a booking, we take them through our pre-screening questions. Where an agency worker is found to have contracted COVID-19 or is displaying a symptom, even where mild, then they are required to stay at home for at least 7 days from when the symptoms started (if they live alone), or 14 days when they live with someone who has symptoms.

At the date of writing, the wearing of facemasks and other face covering in schools is not currently recommended and the majority of staff will not require PPE beyond what they would normally need for their roles, even when it is not always possible to maintain a distance of 2 metres.
All our agency workers have been issued with the latest government guidance on working in education settings. We will continue to monitor the situation and ensure they are up to date with any changes.

**Working together**

It is important that we work together to ensure all our agency staff booked for work are aware of government guidance and best practice for working in educational settings during a pandemic.

We will be asking our schools to share their plans and procedures with regards to re-entry, social distancing and health and safety with our agency staff before they arrive at school for work.

If you have any questions for us, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

The Adapt Team.

**Information related to education**

The department for education has launched a new helpline to answer questions about COVID-19 related to Education. Staff, parents and young people can contact the helpline as follows:

- Phone: 0800 046 8687
- Email: DfE.Coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk
- Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)