

# **Shere CE Infant School & Nursery and Clandon Primary School**

## **First Aid Policy Covid-19 Addendum**

This document supplements the existing first aid arrangements at Shere Infant & Nursery School and Clandon Primary School considering the Covid-19 Pandemic.

### **Risk Assessment:**

#### **Temporary changes to activity:**

The risk assessment will establish if some activities can be avoided to lower the risk such as use of tools. In our schools, the most frequent first aid events are sprains, cuts and bruises. These types of minor injuries can be dealt with in bubbles.

Bubble leaders will download the “First Aid at your Fingertips” app.

#### **Pupils and staff with specific first aid response need:**

Where there is a known medical need and a requirement for specific training in relation to that need, and we cannot keep those pupils safe, despite all efforts, then we will inform the parents that we cannot offer a place. Where the parent is a critical worker and wants support, as they cannot make alternative arrangements, they should contact the local authority.

#### **Paediatric First Aid:**

If staff need to renew their paediatric, general or emergency first aid certificate and requalification is not possible as a direct result of Covid-19 and the related government guidance, the validity of current certificates can be extended by up to 3 months. This applies to certificates expiring on or after 16 March 2020.

Where children aged 2-5 are on site, we will use best endeavours to have someone with full Paediatric First Aid (PFA) certification on site at all times. Where this is not possible we will ensure someone with First Aid at Work or emergency PFA is on site and other measures as outlined in this guidance are implemented.

#### **First aid kit:**

Bubble Leads must check their first aid kit contents: most contents lists are held in the first aid box. First aid boxes are located in prominent places where they can be accessed easily.

#### **Planning for an emergency response:**

The Bubble Lead, First Aider and Admin Team are appointed to respond to any first aid event. This means one person can call 999 and relay information from the emergency services.

#### **The Headteacher will ensure that:**

- The requirements relating to the management of first aid outlined in Covid-19 guidance for educational settings have been implemented
- The additional equipment specified in this guidance is provided
- An adequate supply of PPE is available for first aider familiarisation and practice (for circumstances where they are not otherwise familiar with wearing PPE)
- First aiders take time to practice use of PPE prior to needing to use it

- First aiders do not fall into a clinically vulnerable group (unless a specific assessment has been carried out)
- This guidance is discussed with first aiders and they understand these new requirements.

## **First Aiders must ensure that:**

- They familiarise themselves with this information and follow these requirements where it is possible to do so.
- They undertake first aid duties applying the principles of social distancing and infection control as much as is possible
- Where close contact is required, they follow the requirements for wearing Personal Protective Equipment, specifically paying attention to the sequence for PPE removal in order to avoid self-contamination (follow the instructional video which can be found in this guidance)
- Ensure that the equipment is ready for use as part of their response arrangements.

## **Safe working arrangements for providing first aid:**

Avoid close contact in the first instance, consider minor injuries where you may be able to instruct a person about what to do or pass them the items they need and stand at a distance if this is age appropriate to do.

If you work in a setting where a person may have Covid-19, wherever possible ask the person to move to a location away from others. If there is no physically separate room and the casualty is not able to move to another room, ask all other persons not required to assist in first aid provision to leave the vicinity.

Where a close contact response is needed (for symptomatic and non-symptomatic people) the following equipment is required:

- Disposable gloves and plastic apron
- Face mask
- Disposable eye protection (where there is an anticipated risk of contamination with splashes, droplets of blood or body fluids)
- Hand sanitiser
- Two bin bags
- Disinfectant wipes (to clean down first aid box).

## **Location of PPE:**

PPE should be kept with First Aid kits so it is readily available when needed quickly. It can be kept in a labelled box or bag.

## **Putting on PPE:**

First aiders must follow the Covid-19 Personal Protective Equipment Guidance and ensure they familiarise themselves with the instructions for putting on and removing PPE in readiness for responding to a first aid event.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0d2YUC-d5Po&feature=youtu.be>

## **Cardiopulmonary resuscitation:**

If you need to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), you should conduct a risk assessment and adopt appropriate precautions to reduce the risk of virus transmission. It is acknowledged that you may not have had the opportunity to put on PPE.

In adults, it is recommended that you do not perform rescue breaths or mouth-to-mouth ventilation; perform chest compressions only. Compression-only CPR may be as effective as combined ventilation and compression in the first few minutes after nonasphyxial arrest (cardiac arrest not due to lack of oxygen).

#### The following steps are recommended:

- Recognise cardiac arrest by looking for the absence of signs of life and the absence of normal breathing.
- Do not listen or feel for breathing by placing your ear and cheek close to the patient's mouth (unless you are wearing a fluid resistant mask).
- If you are in any doubt about confirming cardiac arrest, the default position is to start chest compressions until help arrives.
- Make sure an ambulance is on its way. If Covid-19 is suspected, tell them when you call 999.
- If there is a perceived risk of infection, first aiders should place a cloth/towel over the victim's mouth and nose (unless the first aider is wearing 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 the person's chances of survival and does not increase risk of infection.

After performing compression-only CPR, all rescuers should wash their hands thoroughly with soap and water; alcohol-based hand gel is a convenient alternative. They should also seek advice from the NHS 111 coronavirus advice service or medical adviser.

Cardiac arrest in children is more likely to be caused by a respiratory problem (asphyxial arrest), therefore chest compressions alone are unlikely to be effective. If a decision is made to perform mouth-to-mouth ventilation in asphyxial arrest, use a resuscitation face shield where available.

We do recognise some first aiders will still choose to administer rescue breaths or instinctively respond in this way. This is a personal choice.

Remove and dispose of PPE when close contact is no longer required, by following the sequence for removal as detailed in PPE guidance. It is critical that you do this in order to avoid self-contamination (do not walk through the premises wearing PPE).

You can use hand washing facilities after you have followed the PPE removal sequence or, if not in close proximity to where you remove the PPE, use hand sanitizer.

Double bag used items. Any dressings or waste generated from delivering first aid can also be disposed of in the waste bag.

## Cleaning:

If you provided first aid to a symptomatic person, all surfaces that the person has come into contact with after they developed symptoms should be cleaned following the cleaning requirements outlined in the quarantine zone guidance.

Please note: additional cleaning is not required in areas that a symptomatic person has passed through and spent minimal time (e.g. corridors) which are not visibly contaminated with body fluids. Such areas can be cleaned as part of routine premises cleaning.

## **First aider actions:**

If you have been in close contact with a person and/or have given mouth-to-mouth ventilation there are no additional actions to be taken other than to monitor yourself for symptoms of possible Covid-19 over the following 14 days.

- Wipe down the first aid box after use using a disinfectant wipe.
- Replace used PPE so it is available for the next first aid event
- Follow your normal arrangements for recording first aid and checking stock.