

## Media Release

**Date: 28 March 2022**

### Education relaxes some COVID-19 measures in settings

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Education has provided updated guidance for schools that enable the relaxation of some of the enhanced measures currently in place.

These changes have been made because of improving staffing levels in many settings, but also to help with operational delivery where the re-introduction of bubbles caused challenges in some settings.

The updated guidance, which came into effect this morning, includes:

- A move towards year group or key stage bubbles in primary schools to assist with operational management
- Removal of expectation that primary school staff wear face coverings in classrooms
- Removal of bubbles in secondary and post-16 settings but with continued emphasis on the importance of other non-pharmacological interventions
- On-island day trips and visits can take place, provided this does not adversely impact staffing in settings
- School-run extra-curricular activities and breakfast clubs can recommence, provided that staff feel able to do so
- Staggered start and finish arrangements are no longer necessary

Parents/carer should have already received information from their child's setting about how this updated guidance will be put into effect at their school. Based on the updated guidance, which gives flexibility to schools to adapt based on their current circumstances, not all settings will operate in exactly the same way.