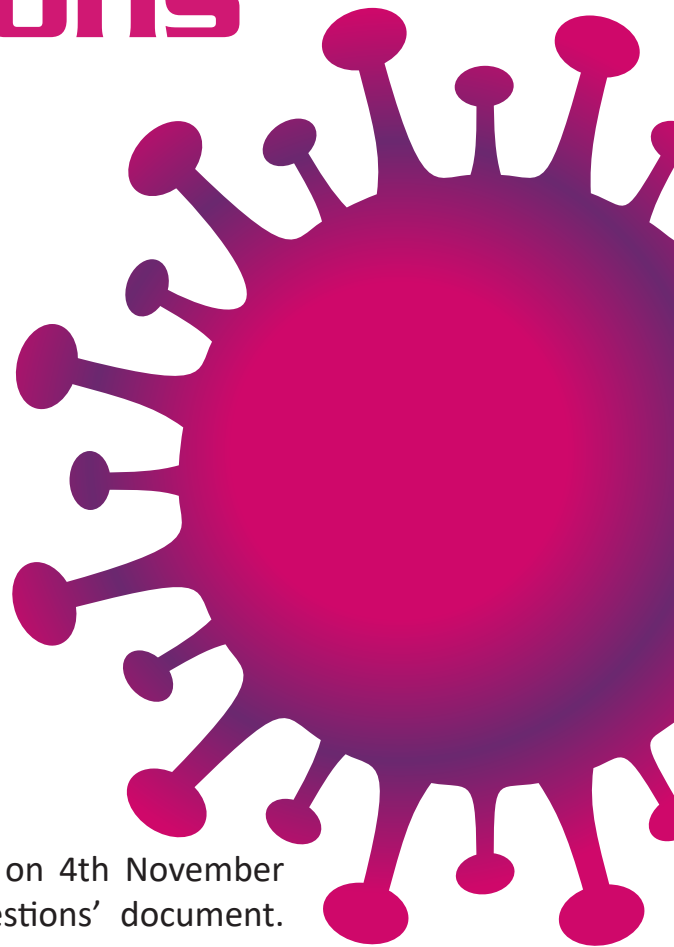


# COVID-19

## Frequently Asked Questions



Following on from [Government guidance](#) published on 4th November 2020, afPE has updated its 'Frequently Asked Questions' document.

“  
1  
*Can we still operate fixtures?*  
”

No.

**'Competition between different schools should not take place, in line with the wider restrictions on grassroots sport.'**

This applies to both schools and colleges.

“ 2  
*Can we still run extra-curricular clubs and activities?*”

No. The only exception to this is where this is used to support wraparound care.

**‘Out-of-school activities (including wraparound care) may continue to operate if their primary purpose is providing registered childcare, or where they are offering other childcare activities, where this is reasonably necessary to enable parents to:**

- work or search for work
- undertake training or education

**All other out of school activities, not being primarily used by parents for these purposes,**

**should close for face-to-face provision for the duration of the national restrictions.’**

Lunchtime clubs and activities are still permissible because, in the guidance, extra-curricular activities are considered to be before and after school. Each school will make a decision on the viability of this lunchtime provision based on a risk assessment process.

**‘Where schools are offering extra-curricular activities (that is, before and after school clubs)...’**

“ 3  
*What can we teach within the physical education curriculum?*”

The guidance has outlined the distinction between physical education, sport and physical activity.

**‘Schools have the flexibility to decide how physical education, sport and physical activity will be provided whilst following the measures in their system of controls.’**

It then goes on to say :

**‘Sports whose national governing bodies have developed guidance under the principles of**

**the government’s guidance on team sport and been approved by the government are permitted. Schools must only provide team sports listed on the [return to recreational team sport framework](#).’**

As fixtures and extra-curricular clubs are not permitted, ‘sport’ will not be covered in schools at this time. The focus in lessons will be on educating through the physical (see

the [afPE definitions poster](#) for clarity). This means that you may be using activities which could be mistakenly interpreted as sport but are actually not. For example, if pupils are passing a ball to each other or practicing a roll in gymnastic activity they are not engaging in a sport, thus these types of activity would be permissible in lessons. You should still ensure you adhere to your own school's approach to social distancing and hygiene.

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“ 4  
*Can schools access local leisure and sports facilities?*”

No. The only exception to this is where schools use sports and leisure facilities as part of their normal provision).

**‘These businesses and places will also be permitted to be open for a small number of exempt activities, including:**

- **education and training (including for schools to use sports and leisure facilities where that it part of their normal provision)’**

If schools use an existing leisure facility schools as part of a ‘dual use arrangement’ then this might be possible to continue during the

lockdown period. However, most leisure facilities are now closed and will be essentially moth balled for the month. Schools will not be able to access a facility that has no staff on site.

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“ 5  
*Can schools teach PE indoors?*”

**‘It is important that children continue to remain fit and active and, wherever possible, have the 60 active minutes of daily physical activity recommended by the Chief Medical Officers.’**

**‘Schools have the flexibility to decide how physical education, sport and physical activity will be provided whilst following the measures in their system of controls.’**

**‘Outdoor sports should be prioritised where possible, and large indoor spaces used where it is not, maximising natural ventilation flows**

**(through opening windows and doors or using air conditioning systems wherever possible), distancing between pupils and paying scrupulous attention to cleaning and hygiene.’**

During the colder months, it is important that students wear clothing that is fit for purpose. From the earliest ages, they should change into suitable PESSPA clothing (or 'kit') in order that they may participate safely and securely. Jogging bottoms and sweat shirts are preferable to shorts and t-shirts when taking part in PE outdoors and school tights should be removed for exercise as these are unhygienic. Footwear should demonstrate effective grip and support for outdoor PESSPA activities and when taking part in gymnastics and dance, bare feet is advised where the floor condition is suitable.



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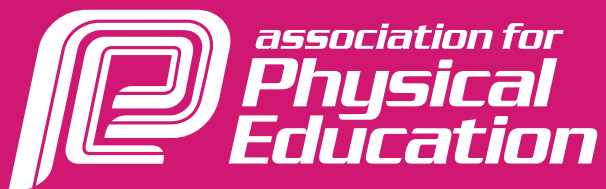


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