Quick Reference Guide for Cleaning Workers

Do not go to work if you have symptoms of COVID-19, which are a high temperature and/or a new, continuous cough.



You only need additional PPE if you are cleaning an area where a person with COVID-19 symptoms has slept or there is visible contamination with body fluids.





When do you need PPE?

If you are cleaning an area where a person with COVID-19 symptoms has been.

What PPE should you use?

At a minimum:

- Plastic disposable apron
- Disposable gloves

Additionally, if there is a higher level of virus present*:

- Fluid resistant surgical mask
- Eye protection

*For instance, when cleaning areas where the symptomatic individual has slept or where there is visible contamination with bodily fluids.

Safe use and disposal of PPE

- Follow the guidance (and video) on how to safely put on/take off PPE
- Only use aprons, gloves and masks once for each setting to be cleaned.
- Change the mask for a new one if removed for any reason (e.g. breaks for eating or drinking), or if it becomes moist or damaged during use.
- Decontaminate re-usable eye protection after use.
- Double bag used aprons, gloves and mask to safely dispose.
- Set aside from other waste for 72 hours before disposal in general waste.
- Wash your hands after taking off PPE and handling waste.



Guidance based on PHE advice 22 April 2020 and subject to change. Always check for updates on the gov.uk website.

If you have concerns about your visit or PPE please speak to your manager.