The DfE's CO_2 monitor programme

- CO_2 monitors will be rolled out to state-funded education settings throughout the Autumn term. You can expect to receive your full allocation of monitors from the DfE in one delivery.

- Special, Alternative Provision and Residential settings will be prioritised for first deliveries from September.

- We will **publish details on upcoming delivery schedules regularly via the daily bulletin**, so that you know when to expect your first deliveries.

- These monitors are portable so you can easily move them around your full estate; **in total you will receive roughly 1 monitor for every 2 teaching rooms.**

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Introduction

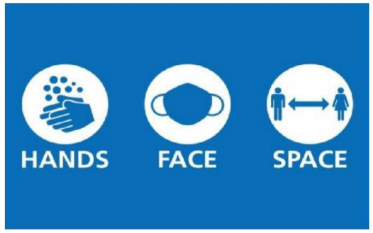
This guide sets out how education and childcare settings can use CO_2 monitors most effectively to help identify poor ventilation.

Good ventilation can help reduce the risk of spreading coronavirus, so a focus on improving general air flow, preferably through fresh air or effective mechanical systems, can help to create a safer environment for staff and students. You can generally maintain and increase the supply of fresh air by opening windows and doors – **although fire doors must remain closed**.

CO_2 levels as measured by monitors are a proxy for good ventilation. You can use CO_2 monitors to help you:

1. assess how well ventilated your spaces are
2. balance good ventilation with thermal comfort

It is important to remember that CO_2 monitors are an indicator of ventilation status and not infection risk.

There are many different types of CO_2 monitors available. The most effective portable devices to use are non-dispersive infrared (NDIR) CO_2 monitors. This is the type provided by DfE to eligible education settings over the autumn term 2021.

Remember: you should continue with basic preventative measures such as regular handwashing and cleaning regimes.