

Covid-19

The use of Fogging Machines

A number of queries have been received from schools around the need for fogging. Fogging is a technique used for disinfection which involves a fine mist of disinfectant being dispersed by a blower. Fogging is in itself not recommended by the World Health Organisation for cleaning in regard to Covid-19

In order to limit the transmission of Covid-19 it is necessary for there to be an enhanced cleaning *and* disinfection process. Fogging does NOT remove the requirement for surfaces to be cleaned. If dirt, debris, wet patches or some other materials are covering parts of a surface then these areas may not be sanitised and so fogging should be carried out in conjunction with a deep clean.

Where cleaning is undertaken using a combined detergent disinfectant, such as those listed below, there is no additional benefit from fogging. Each of these products cleans and disinfects, is available ready to use and is tested to BS EN 14476. (Other products are available)

Clinell Universal Range

Evans Safe Zone Plus

Oxivir Plus (Diversity)

Clover Ultra AX Virucidal/Bactericidal Disinfectant

What measures need to be in place if you are using fogging?

If you are engaging a company to carry out the fogging they should provide you with;

1. A risk assessment for the process
2. Their safe system of work including any PPE they will be wearing
3. Confirmation that surfaces will be effectively cleaned prior to the fogging taking place
4. Confirmation of the product being used to disinfect
5. A copy of their COSHH assessment for the disinfectant
6. Evidence of competence to use the equipment

If you have purchased a fogging machine to undertake the fogging in-house you will need to ensure you have completed points 1-5.

If you require any further advice or assistance please contact healthandsafety@tameside.gov.uk