

COVID-19: Outbreak Management Plan



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1. Introduction

This plan is based on the [contingency framework for managing local outbreaks](#) of COVID-19 and the [schools operational guidance](#), published by the Department for Education (DfE).

We will only implement some, or all, of the measures in this plan in response to recommendations provided by our local council, directors of public health (DsPH), Public Health England (PHE) health protection team or the national government.

It may be necessary to implement these measures in the following circumstances:

- To help manage a COVID-19 outbreak within the school. Actions will be considered when either of the following thresholds are met:
 - There are 2 positive cases among learners or staff who are likely to have mixed closely within a 10-day period
 - If COVID-19 infection rates in the community are extremely high, and other measures have failed to reduce transmission
 - As part of a package of measures responding to a 'variant of concern' (VoC)
 - To prevent unsustainable pressure on the NHS

2. Seeking public health advice

When one of the thresholds above is met, we will review the testing, hygiene and ventilation measures already in place.

We will also seek public health advice from a director of public health or health protection team. Carli Willis will be responsible for seeking this advice, and will do so by telephoning the DfE helpline (0800 046 8687).

3. Testing

If recommended, we will increase the use of home testing by learners and staff. If it is advised that we reintroduce an asymptomatic testing site (ATS) at our school, we will consult with the director of public health (DsPH) to discuss any further support we need to do this.

If we reintroduce on-site asymptomatic testing:

- › Testing will take place twice a week at 2 – 3 day intervals according to individual timetables
- › Testing will take place in the school's medical room
- › Any learner who cannot access a test at home will be offered onsite testing
- › All learners on their return from a school holiday period will access two consecutive onsite tests at two to three day intervals upon their return to school

4. Face coverings

If recommended, learners, staff and visitors who are not exempt from wearing a face covering:

- › Will be asked to keep on or put on a face covering when arriving at school and moving around indoors in places where social distancing is difficult to maintain, such as in communal areas

And/or:

- › Will be asked to wear a face covering in classrooms or during activities, unless social distancing can be maintained or a face covering would impact on the ability to take part in exercise or strenuous activity

5. Shielding

We will adhere to national guidance on the reintroduction of shielding, which would apply to those on the [shielded patient list \(SPL\)](#).

We will speak to individuals required to shield about additional protective measures in school or arrangements for home working or learning.

6. Other measures

Parents, carers, learners and staff will be informed promptly about the introduction of control measures. This will be done via email/letters sent home with learners once a decision has been made.

If recommended, we will limit:

- › Residential educational visits
- › Open days
- › Transition or taster days
- › Parents coming into school
- › Live performances

If recommended, we will reintroduce:

- › Bubbles, to reduce mixing between groups

7. Attendance restrictions

Attendance restrictions will only be recommended as a last resort. If recommended, we will implement the measures in this section.

7.1 Eligibility to remain in school

If restrictions are recommended, we will stay open for:

- › Vulnerable learners
- › Children of critical workers

7.2 Education and support for learners at home

All of our learners fall into the vulnerable category and so attendance at the school is the first option, any learners unable to access school due to Covid related issues will be offered alternative education via zoom or google classroom.

The school will ensure that home schools are aware of any Covid related absence so that they can provide meals or lunch parcels for learners eligible for benefits-related free school meals while they are not attending school because of COVID-19 isolation guidelines.

7.3 Safeguarding

We will review our child protection policy to make sure it reflects the local restrictions and remains effective.

We will aim to have a trained DSL or deputy DSL on site wherever possible.

If our DSL (or deputy) can't be on site, they can be contacted remotely by contacting Sian Thomas on Mobile number: 07563022338

On occasions where there is no DSL or deputy on site, a senior leader will take responsibility for co-ordinating safeguarding on site.

When vulnerable learners are absent, we will:

- › Speak to parents/carers and, where appropriate, social workers and the local authority, to work out the reason for absence
- › Encourage attendance
- › Ensure vulnerable learners can access appropriate education and support while at home
- › Maintain contact, and check regularly that the pupil is able to access remote education provision