

## Covid-19 Outbreak Management/ Contingency Plan – September 2021

In the event of a Covid-19 outbreak, it may be necessary to take extra action if the number of positive cases substantially increases. This is because it could indicate that transmission is occurring within the setting.

Following the government guidance in

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1011704/20210817\\_Contingency\\_Framework\\_FINAL.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1011704/20210817_Contingency_Framework_FINAL.pdf) the threshold for seeking public health advice is:

- 5 children, pupils, students or staff, who are likely to have mixed closely, test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period;
- 10% of children, pupils, students or staff who are likely to have mixed closely test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period;
- A pupil, student, child or staff-member is admitted to hospital with Covid-19.

Public health advice should be sought by phoning the DfE helpline (0800 046 8687, option 1). This will be the responsibility of a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

Identifying a group that is likely to have mixed closely will be different for each setting but for our school could include:

- A whole class
- An intervention group
- A friendship group mixing at breaktimes e.g. in the lunch hall
- A sports team
- A group in a lunchtime/ after-school activity

The Senior Leadership Team will liaise with all staff (teachers, teaching assistants, lunchtime supervisors, office staff as well as external teachers i.e. music teachers, teacher of the deaf) to identify all close contacts.

Once the threshold has been reached, the community public health team/ Department for Education may advise that this Outbreak Management/ Contingency Plan is put in place.

### **Step 1: School Remains Fully Open with all/most Children in Attendance**

It may be necessary for groups/ classes of children to stay at home in order to test and isolate. These children will then have access to high quality remote education provided via Teams following our 'Remote Education Policy'. Parents will receive the 'Teams User Guide'.

All staff will be asked to consider which activities can take place outdoors; senior leaders will identify whether ventilation in shared spaces can be improved; cleaners will be asked to 'deep clean' affected classrooms; and staff in affected classes should carry out a one-off enhanced clean of any shared equipment.

### **Step 2: School Remains Fully Open with all/ most Children in Attendance but with Enhanced Control Measures**

As above, but if further control measures are advised, the rest of the school will temporarily revert to the bubble system in place from September 2020 – July 2021 and all the protection and control

measures outlined in the risk assessment dated 29.6.21 (pre-step 4) including the wearing of masks by staff and visitors in communal areas.

Each 'bubble'/class will return to staggered starts, breaks, lunches and finishes following the same timetables as in the 2020-21 school year.

Parents will be informed by email and by letter of the changes to the school day and will receive a copy of the 'Outbreak Management Parent Information Handbook' outlining the procedures to be followed.

Any identified groups/bubbles/classes required to close will have high quality remote education provided via Teams following our 'Remote Education Policy'. Parents will receive the 'Teams User Guide'. Technology support will be available via the school office.

### **Step 3: Partial School Closure**

If some attendance restrictions are needed, all vulnerable children, children of critical workers, children in reception, year 1 and year 2 will still be allowed to attend. The 2020/21 bubble system, protection and control measures and staggered timetable will be reverted to for those in school.

All other children will be taught in line with our 'Remote Learning Policy'.

Parents will be informed by email and by letter and will receive the 'Teams User Guide'. Technology support will be available via the school office.

### **Step 4: Full School Closure**

If, by exception, attendance is restricted further, vulnerable children and children of critical workers should still be allowed to attend. All other children will be taught in line with our 'Remote Learning Policy'.

Parents will be informed by email and by letter and will receive the 'Teams User Guide'. Technology support will be available via the school office.