



Yewstock School

# 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, 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 authority (LA), director 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
- Where local rates are high, and schools are experiencing challenges from widespread transmission, or where there is a clear risk of widespread transmission
- 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)

Given the detrimental impact that restrictions on education can have on children and young people, any measures in school will only ever be considered as a last resort, kept to the minimum number groups, and for the shortest amount of time possible.

Please also refer to the whole school COVID-19 risk assessment.

### 2. Testing

If recommended, we will increase the use of home testing by Secondary pupils and staff, including:

- Household siblings (secondary school age) of confirmed cases would be advised to take daily LFD while awaiting their PCR test results and to continue to attend school (unless test is positive). This would also be advised for primary school aged children but is at the discretion of the parent/guardian.
- Where prevalence is high it would be appropriate to recommend daily LFD testing for all close contacts identified by NHS Test and Trace whilst individuals await their PCR results.
- Continued promotion of twice weekly asymptomatic testing.
- During an outbreak and following a risk assessment with the Local Authority Public Health team or the UK Health Security Agency Health Protection Team, to extend daily LFD testing for close or household contacts (identified by NHS Test and Trace) while awaiting PCR results to a minimum of 5 days, increasing to 7 days as necessary to ensure the final test is taken on a school day.

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- If unwell stay at home. If negative for COVID individuals should still wait until 24 hours post fever to go back into a setting. Colds and other non-Covid symptoms are likely to be circulating but in the first instance cardinal symptoms should be treated as possible COVID and trigger isolation and testing. This is the case even if others in the setting /group have tested negative for similar symptoms

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 do reintroduce on-site asymptomatic testing for Secondary age pupils, this could be delivered in class teams during morning registration. Alternatively, a dedicated testing room may be required.

### 3. Face coverings

If recommended, pupils, 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

### 4. 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.

### 5. Mixing or 'Bubbles'

If recommended, in some local areas it may become necessary to:

- Reduce mixing between groups by pausing assemblies or other larger gatherings

And/or:

- Reintroduce 'bubbles' for a temporary period to reduce mixing between groups. Any decision to recommend the reintroduction of 'bubbles' would not be taken lightly and would need to take account of the detrimental impact they can have on the delivery of education. Specific measures to be introduced could include:
  - Return to the timetable being taught by Class Tutors to restrict movement.
  - Specialist rooms can be used if taught by Class Tutors.
  - Some KS3 classes to eat their lunch in classrooms.
  - Where possible, College pupils to use College Toilets before/after visiting School. All pupils to continue good hand hygiene.
  - PPA to be arranged in Class Teams.
  - Playtimes to return to demarcated areas with a timetable for use of Primary playground.
  - Home Learning packs to be issued to pupils who are isolating and well enough.
  - Assemblies to return online.
  - PE lessons delivered outside in extended bubbles, well spaced.

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- LFD testing every day for a limited period for staff and Secondary pupils.
- Thursday Therapy group to be split and delivered on both sites.
- Staff breaks/lunch – consider social distancing and take breaks in class or outside if possible.
- Professional visits allowed e.g. SALT, OT etc and can continue using Meeting Rooms/LRC etc.
- School Visitors allowed although not encouraged unless to discuss school provision or safeguarding/H&S issue or agreed by Headteacher.

## 6. Other measures

If recommended, we will limit:

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

## 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

In the first instance, we will stay open for:

- Vulnerable pupils
- Children of critical workers
- Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils
- Year 10 and 11 pupils
- Year 12 and 13 pupils

If further restrictions are recommended, we will stay open for:

- Vulnerable pupils
- Children of critical workers

### 7.2 Education and support for pupils at home

All other pupils will be required to stay at home and will receive remote education.

We will aim to deliver remote education that meets the same quality and quantity of education that pupils would receive in school, as outlined in our Remote Teaching and Learning Policy.

The school will continue to provide meals vouchers for pupils eligible for benefits-related free school meals while they are not attending school because of COVID-19 isolation guidelines.

### 7.3 Wraparound care

We will limit access to Breakfast Club and after-school activities to those that need it most.

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We will communicate who will be eligible to attend once the restrictions are confirmed.

## **7.4 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 contactable remotely.

If our DSL (or deputy) is unavailable, we will share a DSL with another TADSS school.

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