

# COVID-19: Outbreak Management Plan

St Mary's Infants School



**Approved by:** C Barwell **Date:** 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021

**Last reviewed on:** Jan. '22

**Next review due by:** When Government changes occur or local Covid situation

## 1. Introduction

This plan is based on the [contingency framework for managing local outbreaks](#) of COVID-19, provided 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, for example:

- To help manage a COVID-19 outbreak within the school
- 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)

## 2. 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.

## 3. Other measures

If recommended, we will limit:

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

## 4. Attendance restrictions

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

### 4.1 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

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

- Vulnerable pupils

- Children of critical workers

## 4.2 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 remote learning policy.

The school will continue to provide lunch parcels for pupils eligible for benefits-related free school meals while they are not attending school because of COVID-19 isolation guidelines. These may be collected from school if possible or delivered if circumstances dictate.

## 4.3 Wraparound care

We will limit access to before and after-school activities and wraparound care during term time and the summer holidays to those that need it most.

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

## 4.4 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) is unavailable, we will share a DSL with The Batt School. Their DSL can be contacted by contacting [office@thebattschool.org.uk](mailto:office@thebattschool.org.uk)

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

## 5. Updated Measures Jan 2022 DfE's operational guidance (December 2021)

Additional measures include:

- Fully vaccinated adults, and children between the ages of 5 years and 18 years and 6 months, who are identified as a close contact of a positive case, should take lateral flow tests for 7 days. They do not need to isolate as long as the tests are negative.
- Parents and other visitors to schools should be encouraged to take a lateral flow test before arrival
- For indoor events of 500 people or more, schools must require over-18s to show an NHS Covid Pass to enter
- Optimising indoor space ventilation

In addition:

- Make sure people who are required to self-isolate don't attend school
- Advise everyone to clean their hands thoroughly and frequently

- Make sure people practise good respiratory hygiene, and promote the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
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In some cases, we may also need to:

- Make sure individuals have the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), for example if they need to be in close contact with a pupil who develops symptoms or gets a positive lateral flow test at school
- Promote and engage with asymptomatic testing

The local health protection team will work with us to manage an 'outbreak' of coronavirus. We will also seek its advice if any pupil or staff member is admitted to hospital with COVID-19.

We are no longer required to carry out contact tracing – NHS Test and Trace will do this, though in exceptional circumstances you may be asked to assist.

Close contacts **don't** need to self-isolate if one of the following applies:

They're fully vaccinated (at least 2 doses)

- They're below the age of 18 years and 6 months
- They've taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- They're not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Instead, they should take daily lateral flow tests for 7 days. If they test positive, they should isolate in line with government guidance.

If they're under 5, they don't need to self-isolate and should not take lateral flow tests – but they shouldn't have close contact with anyone at higher risk of severe illness if they caught COVID-19.

### **What's considered 'close contact'?**

You are a 'close contact' if you:

- Are living in the same household as someone with symptoms or who has tested positive for COVID-19
- Have had the following types of contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19:
  - Face-to-face contact, including being coughed on or a face-to-face conversation within 1 metre
  - Being within 1 metre for 1 minute or longer without face-to-face contact
  - Being within 2 metres for more than 15 minutes (either as a one-off contact or added up together over one day)
  - Travelling in the same vehicle or plane

### **School specific measures to keep classes open**

- To mix classes if there is a shortage of teaching staff and class numbers allow
- To use TAs to cover classes
- To use staff from The Batt is necessary
- To use teaching agency staff if necessary
- For safety move the Reception into the main building using the hall so that additional staff not needed

If a class has to close, we will make sure that the teachers rotate so that every class comes into school rather than the same class be off.

If home learning needs to be carried out, this will be a full day of online learning.

If office staff are absent, AHT will cover and also get support from the SBM.