

COVID-19: Outbreak Management Plan

St Nicholas CE Primary Academy



Approved by:	Christopher Dale - HT	Date: 1/9/21
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Last reviewed on:	29/12/2021
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Next review due by:	7/1/2022
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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, 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), directors of public health (DsPH), UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) 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. Actions will be considered when either of the following thresholds are met:
 - There are 5 positive cases among pupils or staff who are likely to have mixed closely within a 10-day period
 - 10% of pupils or staff who are likely to have mixed closely test positive 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) e.g. Omicron
- 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. The Headteacher or his representative will be responsible for seeking this advice, and will do so by telephoning the DfE helpline (0800 046 8687) they will also inform the CEO of the Aquila MAT of any outcomes as a result of the advice received.

3. Testing

If recommended, we will increase the use of home testing by staff.

As a primary school, we have not been required to introduce an Asymptomatic Testing Site.

We will follow all guidelines and advice issued by the UKHSA.

4. Other measures

Parents, carers, pupils and staff will be informed promptly about the introduction of control measures. This will be done via Parentmail and ClassDojo once a decision has been made.

If recommended, we will limit:

- Parents coming into school
- Live performances
- Residential educational visits

- Open days
- Transition or taster days

If recommended, we will (re)introduce:

- Bubbles, to reduce mixing between groups
- Face coverings in communal areas and classrooms for staff and visitors (unless exempt)

Face Covering

Staff will continue to wear face coverings in communal areas where social distancing cannot be guaranteed and on the school playground yard when greeting or dismissing children in line with our risk assessment. We will follow all guidelines and advice issued by UKHSA.

Shielding

Shielding is currently paused. In the event of a major outbreak or VoC that poses a significant risk to individuals on the shielded patient list (SPL), ministers can agree to reintroduce shielding. Shielding would be considered in addition to other measures to address the residual risk to people on the SPL, once the wider interventions are taken into account. Shielding can only be reintroduced by national government. St Nicholas CE Primary Academy will identify any pupils or staff who are on a Shielded Patient List in the instance of this being reintroduced and supporting accordingly.

5. Attendance restrictions

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

5.1 Eligibility to remain in school

If restrictions are recommended, we will stay open for:

- Vulnerable pupils
- Children of critical workers

5.2 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 learning policy](#).

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

This will be done via vouchers or food parcels and will be organised by the business manager.

5.3 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.

Our names DSLs are as follows and there will always be a DSL on the school site.

- Christopher Dale – Headteacher
- Victoria Turner – Deputy Headteacher
- Antoinette Starmer-Smith – Head of Inclusion
- Amy Pursey – EYFS & KS1 Lead
- Julie Lilly – Lower KS2 Lead

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 pupils are absent, we will:

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

5.4 Wraparound care

In the event of school closures, we will limit wraparound care during term time to vulnerable pupils and children of critical workers.

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

We will continue to operate our breakfast and after school club and liaise with our partner provider, Abacus Nursery. They will refer to [guidance on protective measures for holiday, after school clubs and other out-of-school settings for children during the COVID-19 outbreak](#).