

Newton Road School

COVID 19 Outbreak Management Plan September 2021



Introduction

This plan is based on the [contingency framework](#), published by the Department for Education (DfE), which describes the principles of managing local outbreaks of Coronavirus (COVID-19) in education and childcare settings. The framework covers:

- the types of measures that settings should be prepared for
- who can recommend these measures and where
- when measures should be lifted
- how decisions are made

Newton Road School will only implement some, or all, of the measures in this plan in response to recommendations provided by the Director of Public Health (DsPH), Public Health England (PHE) 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
- 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)

Prioritising education

The impacts of having missed education during the pandemic are severe for children, young people and adults. In all cases, any benefits in managing transmission should be weighed against any educational drawbacks.

Decision-makers should endeavour to keep any measures in education and childcare to the minimum number of settings or groups possible, and for the shortest amount of time possible.

Decision-makers should keep all measures under regular review and lift them as soon as the evidence supports doing so. Measures affecting education and childcare settings across an area should not be considered in isolation, but as part of a broader package of measures.

Attendance restrictions should only ever be considered as a last resort. Where measures include attendance restrictions, the Department for Education (DfE) may advise on any groups that should be prioritised.

The government will try to give as much notice as possible of any changes to the way settings should operate.

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Topic	Contingency Framework	School Action	Impact
Testing	Lateral Flow testing of staff in primary schools could be increased.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All staff to administer lateral flow tests twice a week from September 2021. • If recommended, staff will increase the frequency of home testing to daily tests. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No impact to learning in school. • Parents will be informed via the email communication system.
Face masks	Use of face masks in communal areas and/or classrooms (for staff) in primary schools.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face masks will remain voluntary on site for all staff and parents from September 2021. • Staff will be encouraged to wear a mask in crowded areas, where social distancing is reduced. • If there is an outbreak in school, face masks will become compulsory for all staff, particularly in communal areas, unless 2m social distancing is achievable. • Primary age children are not expected to wear a face mask. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No impact to learning in school. • Parents will be required to wear a face mask on site if an outbreak occurs. Parents will be informed via the email communication system.
Shielding	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance is mandatory for all children in September. • From September, the DfE have removed the CEV category for all children. • If recommended, additional measures will be put into place to protect the safety of CV children and staff. This may include the use of face masks, additional spacing in the classrooms, or specialist 1:1 teaching outside of the classroom. • Remote teaching will only be authorised following DfE guidance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No impact to learning in school. • If DfE advise CV children to work from home, a full programme of remote learning will be provided.

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<p>Other</p>	<p>Settings should make sure their outbreak management plans cover the possibility they are advised to limit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • residential educational visits • open days • transition or taster days • parental attendance in settings • performances in settings <p>Schools should limit any events where bubbles cannot be maintained or where people from several households would mix.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From September, parents will have limited access within the school building. Parents will be encouraged to communicate with the school office via phone or email. If parents need to enter the school building, face masks will be required. • Open day events will be conducted in small groups. Face masks will be required for attendees. • Parents' evening will be conducted online in the Autumn term. • Performances will be limited in the Autumn term or conducted in small groups where social distancing can be maintained. • School trips in the Autumn term will be day visits only. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No impact to learning in school. • Regular newsletters will keep parents informed about limited access to other events. • In the event that arrangements have to be cancelled, parents will be informed via the email communication system in a timely manner.
<p>Limiting attendance (last resort)</p>	<p>Settings should make sure their outbreak management plans cover the possibility they are advised to limit attendance.</p> <p>High-quality remote education should be provided for all pupils or students not attending.</p> <p>In all circumstances, priority should continue to be given to vulnerable children and young people and children of critical workers to attend to their normal timetables.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the event of a full school closure, vulnerable children and children of critical works will be able to attend the setting as normal. • Year groups bubble groups will be set up on site and led by a class teacher in the specific year group. • Parents will provide this information in the Autumn term in advance of any closures to enable a smooth transition to remote learning. • All classes will have access to quality remote learning via Microsoft Teams. • Remote learning lessons will be delivered by either the child's class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No impact to learning in school for all vulnerable children and children of critical workers. • Limited impact for all other children as learning is not face to face, but via Teams. • Daily lessons will be provided by a qualified teacher. • Where possible, intervention groups will continue to take place online. • In the event of a full school closure, parents will be advised of arrangements via the email communication system.

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	Plan remote learning provision and be able to implement at short notice.	<p>teacher or the other teacher in the year group team.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remote learning will be a mixture of live lessons and pre-recorded lessons. 	
Workforce	<p>If restrictions on child, pupil and student attendance are needed, leaders of childcare and education settings will be best placed to determine the workforce required onsite and if it is appropriate for some staff to work remotely.</p> <p>Employers should have regard to the guidance on clinically extremely vulnerable people.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The health status of all staff is known. • Priority will be given for all CEV and CV staff to work remotely where possible. • Information will be sought in the Autumn term regarding critical worker status. This information will be used by the SLT team to put a plan in place in advance of any closures. 	<p>No impact to learning in school. Parents will be informed of the structure for remote learning via the email communication system.</p>