"Aiming high to achieve success!"

COVID-19: outbreak management plan

Document Control:

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Document Author	Kate Stokes
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Dissemination	This policy is stored on the staff shared area of the school network under 'policies' as well as posted on our website.

Version Control:

Date	Version	Updates / Changes
January 2022	1	The Key model policy adopted, in line with GM Prevention and Outbreak Management Framework

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)

> ➢ 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. A member of the SLT will be responsible for seeking this advice, and will do so by telephoning the DfE helpline (0800 046 8687) or contacting Liz Clarke (SSQA).

3. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Local authorities, directors of public health (DsPH) and PHE health protection teams (HPTs) are responsible for managing localised outbreaks. They provide health protection support and advice to education and childcare settings.

Role	Who
Production of the plan	K. Stokes (Deputy Head)
Authorisation of the plan	A. Stavordale (Chair of Governors)
Review and updating the plan in the light of new guidance and situations	P.Wilson/K.Stokes
Implementation of the plan	SLT

4. CLINICALLY EXTREMELY VULNERABLE

We are aware of the CEV pupils and staff within the school setting and we will follow national guidance. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/supporting-pupils-at-school-with-medicalconditions--3.

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. In the event
that shielding is re-introduced, we will facilitate it within school.

5. TESTING

Staff will be advised to continue with twice weekly LFD testing. If recommended, we will increase the use of home testing by staff. Staff and pupils, identified as close contacts.

6. OTHER MEASURES

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

If recommended, we will **review:**

➢ cleaning and infection control measures and respond to any suggestions for additional measures fromHPH or PHE
➢ whether any activities could take place outdoors, including exercise, assemblies, or classes
➢ ways to improve ventilation indoors, where this would not significantly impact thermal comfort

If recommended, we will **limit**:

➢ Residential educational visits

➢ Open days

➢ Transition or taster days

➢ Parents coming into school

➢ Live performances

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)

7. ATTENDANCE RESTRICTIONS

The government have advised that all schools should operate as normal and that all pupils should attend school, unless they are required to isolate. 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

If 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 Blended 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.

Parents will be advised to collect meal parcels from school.

7.3 Wraparound care

We will limit access to before and after-school activities and wraparound care during term time and any holiday clubs (if available) to those that need it most.

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

8. SAFEGAURDING

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 designated safeguarding lead (DSL) or deputy DSL on site wherever possible. If our DSL (or deputy) cannot be on site, they can be contacted by email or phone.

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.