

COVID Outbreak Contingency Plan – January 2022

<p>When should my child self-isolate or miss school?</p>	 NO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All children MUST attend school unless they are ill. • From 16th August 2021, children under 18 (or double vaccinated adults) do not need to self-isolate, or miss school if a member of their household or a contact, has COVID. • Instead, they need to book a PCR test but can continue coming to school so long as they have no symptoms and they have received a negative PCR test result.
	 YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If your child develops COVID symptoms at home, they should stay at home and should book a PCR test, (NOT a Lateral Flow test). • If your child develops COVID symptoms at school, they will be sent home and you should book them a PCR test. • If your child tests positive for COVID, they will need to self- isolate. The rest of the household does not need to self- isolate if they are under 18 or fully vaccinated – but instead should book a PCR test (on day 3-5 after first exposure). <p><u>Advice for those (pupil/staff) who tested positive for Covid-19 in the last 90 days? (Updated January 2022)</u></p> <p>If someone has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 90 days, if they are identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19 and are exempt from isolation, they are strongly advised to take part in daily testing. If the LFD test is positive, they should also take a confirmatory PCR even if it is within the 90 days.</p> <p>This is a change to the previous position because we know people can be infected with Omicron even when they have had previous COVID-19 infection. Previously, we had evidence that people were likely to be immune for at least 90 days after infection, but we don't know whether this is the case with Omicron. With the removal of the requirement for self-isolation, we need another system to try to reduce transmission. Given that there is much less likelihood of false positives with LFDs when someone is no longer infectious, the balance of risks means that we need to implement this, even in the 90 days after previous infection.</p>

Community COVID risk	Description	ACTIONS
<p>Stage 0- school below the threshold</p> <p>Low Community Transmission. No School Cases.</p>	<p>There have been no cases of COVID within school for 10 school days.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cases of COVID locally are low and/ or stable. • Hospitalisation/ Deaths due to COVID nationally are low. 	<p>No COVID measures are necessary beyond:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain good standards of hand-hygiene. • Ensuring Children / Staff to stay at home if they have COVID Symptoms (and to book a PCR test). • Staff continue twice-weekly Lateral flow testing. • Monitor cases to determine whether threshold is met. • Issue regular reminders to parents/carers- LFD testing for a total of 10 consecutive days in addition to a PCR (on day 3-5 after first exposure) for pupils with household contacts. A child can continue to attend school if their PCR and Lateral Flow test are negative. • Face coverings to be worn by staff in communal areas. (introduced 29/11/21) • Maintain good levels of ventilation- use CO2 monitors to identify poor air quality.(Under 800ppm- no action required; over 800ppm increase ventilation; above 1500ppm poor ventilation- urgent action required).
<p>Stage 0- school below the threshold.</p> <p>Rapidly Rising Community Transmission</p>	<p>No current COVID cases have been recorded at school, but...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cases of COVID are rising rapidly in the community causing disruption to other local schools. • CWAC Public Health / Public Health England issue warnings of expected local/ national infection wave. 	<p>All of the above measures plus...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large indoor public performance audience numbers reduced. • Meetings are online wherever possible. • Staff-room capacity is reduced. Use of staff breakout areas for each phase. • Whole-school/ mixed year group assemblies are replaced with class assemblies. • If cases start to rise, reinforce messaging to staff and parents to look out for symptoms, including wider symptoms.

Number of cases	Description	ACTIONS
<p>Stage 0- school below the threshold.</p> <p>Isolated cases identified.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A single child tests positive for COVID in a class. • There are fewer than 5 cases in the year group. • No other year groups are affected. 	<p>All of the above measures plus...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The child self-isolates for 10 days or in line with guidance (see table above). Remote learning will be provided if they are well enough to complete it. • The parents of the child are contacted directly by NHS Track and Trace to establish likely contacts. • Likely contacts will be contacted by NHS Track & Trace and advised to book at PCR Test. • Children do not need to miss school or self-isolate whilst they wait for the result of the PCR test <u>unless they have COVID Symptoms.</u>
<p>Stage 1</p> <p>5 children or staff within a year group test positive within 10 days of each other.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>3 children or staff (10%) in a single class test positive within 10 days.</p> <p>School is at threshold</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There have been 5 cases of COVID across a year group within 10 days which could mean that COVID is spreading within that group of children. 	<p>All of the above plus..</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notify the outbreak management hub (OMH) that the threshold has been reached and supply the case data; a copy of your contingency plan; details of additional measures already taken and numbers of children in each year group. • As above for each positive case. The child self-isolates for 10 days or in line with guidance (see table above). Remote learning will be provided if they are well enough to complete it. • The parents of the child are contacted directly by NHS Track and Trace to establish likely contacts. • Likely contacts will be contacted by NHS Track & Trace and advised to book at PCR Test. • Children do not need to miss school or self-isolate whilst they wait for the result of the PCR test <u>unless they have COVID Symptoms.</u> <p>The school will discuss the outbreak with CWAC Public Health (HealthProtectionSecure@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk) and agree strengthening protective measures for 10 school days, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase levels of ventilation • Increase frequency of cleaning touch surfaces in classrooms, toilets and shared areas. • Issue letters to parents/ carers (whole school template) • Reduce staff working across more than one year group (where staffing allows) • Maintain staff face masks for corridors & communal areas. • Limiting amount of staff in communal staffrooms. Staff of effected year groups use separate area for lunch and break. • Regular review of cases with OMH.

		<p>Affected classes/ year groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter to parents of affected class/ year groups (affected class template letter) • Enhanced cleaning in affected classroom • Enhanced ventilation • Enhanced hand hygiene • Reorientation of desks to face forward • Remote assemblies for affected classes • Outdoor PE only for the affected classes • No mixing in after school clubs- this may mean some clubs have to be cancelled if there is insufficient staffing. • No singing/ similar activities (e.g. brass lessons) due to increased respiratory secretions. • Separate entrance and exit/ staggered start for affected class. • Segregation of Children of affected year groups- have classroom based school lunches, assemblies, break time, • Adapting, Limiting or postponing indoor sporting events, trips, open days and performances- e.g. swimming • Children of affected year group to revert to single year group assemblies. • Children of affected year group to revert to single year group playtimes. • Reducing the amount of classes staff work across. • Head/DHT to email staff directly and ensure compliance to the above. • Alert year group parents to the outbreak using prepared school comms template.
<p><u>Stage 2 Enhanced measures</u></p> <p>COVID cases continue to increase rapidly within a 10-day period.</p> <p>Or outbreak is starting to affect multiple classes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Despite the measures indicated above, COVID cases within the school continue to rise within a 10 day period with multiple classes and staff affected, suggesting that COVID is spreading widely throughout the school. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incident Management Team meeting held between the school and CWAC Public Health to agree further measures, for a further 10 school days, including: • Introducing increased pupil segregation. Return to individual year groups/class. • Reverting to class based school lunches. • Limiting all non-essential visitors to school. • Postponing all non-essential events. • Affected year group measures to be extended to the whole school. • Introduce fixed seating plan • Re-introduce one way systems and social distancing of 2m. • Use separate entrance and exits- consider staggered starts and egress times, if required. • Suspend school sports, residential away trips in any of the affected year groups.

<p><u>Stage 3</u></p> <p>If cases are considered substantial and continue to rise</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In conjunction with advice from outbreak management hub (OMH) or following a case review- introduce for a limited period.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contact tracing within the school setting• Daily testing of contacts (PH advice required)• Re-introduction of smaller groupings in class “bubbles”• Re-introduce short term attendance restrictions (measure of last resort but may also be required if staffing adversely affected and no supply staff are available)
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The school will inform parents of any changes to COVID measures should these be needed.

Signed 

Date 5/1/22