

COVID-19 - Outbreak Management Plan

Hempsted C of E Primary School

Plan Administration

Version number	1
Date of Issue	July 2021
Electronic copies of this plan are available from	Website
Date of next review	October 2021 or before if required
Person responsible for review	Mr R Waller

Introduction

This plan is based on the [DfE's Contingency Framework](#) which lays out how to manage local outbreaks of COVID-19. The guidance states schools should have "outbreak management plans", outlining "how they would operate" if any of the measures described in the guidance were recommended for their setting or area.

The contingency framework (latest edition) states that councils, directors of public health and Public Health England health protection teams can recommend certain measures for individual schools or clusters of settings.

This may happen to help manage outbreaks in schools, or if there is an "extremely high prevalence" of Covid-19 in the community and other measures have failed to reduce transmission, or as part of a package of measures "responding to a variant of concern".

If there is a need to address more widespread issues across an area, "ministers will take decisions on an area-by-area basis".

Schools will need to consider the implementation of some, or all, of the measures in this plan in response to recommendations provided by their local Public Health team, Public Health England (PHE) health protection team, the DfE or the 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)

Testing

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

Face Coverings

If recommended, staff and visitors who are not exempt from wearing a face covering:

- Will be asked to keep on or put on a face covering when arriving at school and moving around indoors in places where social distancing is difficult to maintain, such as in communal areas

and/or

- Will be asked to wear a face covering in classrooms or during activities, unless social distancing can be maintained or a face covering would impact on the ability to take part in exercise or strenuous activity

Shielding

Schools will adhere to national guidance on the reintroduction of shielding, which would apply to those on the [shielded patient list \(SPL\)](#).

Schools will carry out a risk assessment and speak to individuals required to shield about additional protective measures in school or arrangements for home working or learning.

Other measures

If recommended, schools will limit:

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

Attendance restrictions

Attendance restrictions will only be recommended as a last resort.

As with other periods of restricted attendance, schools should provide “high quality remote education” for all pupils or those not attending. If attendance restrictions are required across an area, the government will publish “detailed operational guidance” for schools.

Restrictions on attendance may be advised by local teams for individual settings or clusters (no more than 3 or 4) of “closely linked settings”.

If recommended, schools will implement the measures in this section. If restrictions in special schools are needed, the DfE’s attendance expectations “will remain in line with the equivalent age groups in mainstream schools”.

Alternative provision “should continue to allow all children or pupils to attend full time”.

Eligibility to remain in school

In the first instance, schools will stay open for:

- Vulnerable pupils
- Children of critical workers
- Any other pupils due to take external exams this academic year

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

- Vulnerable pupils
- Children of critical workers

Education and support for pupils at home

All other pupils will be required to stay at home and will receive high quality remote education.

Schools will aim to deliver remote education that meets the same quality and quantity of education that pupils would receive in school, as outlined in its 'Remote Learning Information for Parents' in the 'Teaching & Learning' section of the school website.

The school will continue to prioritise 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.

Where possible, we will endeavour to deliver them to the homes. If this isn't possible (eg there are not enough volunteers) parents/carers may need to collect them from the site.

Wraparound care

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

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

Safeguarding

Schools will review their child protection policy to make sure it reflects the local restrictions and remains effective.

Schools will aim to have a trained DSL or deputy DSL on site wherever possible.

- If the DSL (or deputy) can't be on site, they can be contacted remotely by texting the pastoral lead on 07727 194384.

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

What we will do when a large number of students need to go home and isolate

The school will use its text messaging system to alert parents. Parents will come onto site and collect their children from the school drive. We have a bank of laptops suitable for home learning and these will be distributed to those who we know need them, and any qualifying parents who request one.

Teachers will upload work onto MS Teams as soon as possible, and 'live' learning will usually commence on the next day. Teachers will keep a log of who attends, and the SLT or pastoral team will contact parents whose children are not engaging.