

Hollin Primary School



COVID-19: outbreak management plan

Approved by: D Fenton and Hollin SLT **Date:** September 2021

Last reviewed on: September 2021

Next review due by: When guidance changes

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), Public Health England (PHE) 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 amongst 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. D. Fenton will be responsible for seeking this advice, and will do so by telephoning the DfE helpline (0800 046 8687) or contacting the local authority (i.e. covid inbox or public health)

3. Shielding

We will adhere to national guidance on the reintroduction of shielding, which would apply to those on the shielded patient list (SPL).

We will speak to individuals required to shield about additional protective measures in school or arrangements for home working or learning.

4. Other measures

If recommended, we will limit:

- Residential educational visits
- Open days
- Transition or taster days
- Parents coming into school
- Movement of pupils around the school
- Performances
- Assemblies
- Mixing of pupils at break/lunch times
- Number of staff members in a particular room
- Mixing of classes for extracurricular activities
- Access to the school office

If recommended we may also reintroduce:

- Face coverings in communal areas and classrooms for staff and visitors (unless exempt)
- Playtime and lunchtime bubbles
- Remote staff meetings
- Class bubbles

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 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 offered the opportunity to collect a 'grab bag' from the school office.

5.3 Before and After School Clubs

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

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

5.4 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 or Children's Welfare Officer on site wherever possible.

If either of those staff can't be on site, they can be contacted remotely by mobile phone and email.

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