



Outbreak Management Plan

*(to be read in conjunction with the **School COVID RA** and Government Contingency Framework document for education and childcare settings)*

Introduction

New York Primary School Outbreak Management Plan is written in response to the national requirement of COVID management from September 2021. It applies the guidance and consideration within the North Tyneside Council Health and Safety team documentation, issued to schools on 16th July 2021.

- The Government has made it a national priority to operate as normally as possible. Education must be prioritised.
- As COVID-19 becomes a virus that we learn to live with, there is now an imperative to reduce the disruption to children and young people's education - particularly given that the direct clinical risks to children are extremely low, and every adult has been offered a first vaccine and the opportunity for 2 doses by mid-September.
- This document can be applied in conjunction with the updated September COVID School Risk assessment which has been updated to reflect the changes to national guidance regarding protocols and procedures.
- New York Primary School will continue to comply with health and safety law and put in place proportionate control measures. Our Risk Assessment is under regular review and is a living document as the circumstances in school and the public health advice changes. This includes having active arrangements in place to monitor whether the controls are effective and working as planned.

For more information on what is required of school leaders in relation to health and safety risk assessments and managing risk, see the [health and safety advice for schools](#).

Roles and Responsibilities

- Collaboration with various teams is essential in the effective management of virus outbreak. School will continue to liaise, seek advice and act upon guidance from Public health teams. Health and Safety teams within the Local Authority and LA guidance (from national).
- All school staff are trained and communicated with to ensure that protocols are in place to minimise risk and to ensure the correct action is taken in the event of a positive case.
- School Covid RA can be referenced to clarify requirements. The Headteacher or in her absence members of SLT can determine the correct course of action.
- School governors will be communicated with and included in the documentation as appropriate.
- Office staff keep all contact numbers required.

Initial response for a confirmed positive case

- In the event of a positive case protocols from September determine that the individual will need to isolate and close contacts under 18 and/or double vaccinated individuals do not need to isolate.
- Symptomatic pupils in school - follow RA guidance using the front entrance as a safe and ventilated place whilst awaiting collection.
- Staff to don PPE as required.
- All staff are encouraged to continue to LFT until the end of September when it will be reviewed

Action Planning

- Supplies of LFT and PCR testing kits remain stocked in school should the need to increase testing be required.
- Continue to signpost those staff not yet vaccinated to local facilities.
- Supplies of masks and sanitising products in stock
- It is accepted that should an outbreak occur protocols maybe tighten up and the use of PPE re-introduced
- Shielding is paused but could be reintroduced upon outbreak.
- For the first half term it is the intention of school to continue with staggering and phase bubbles including restricting parents and visitors into school. This will be reviewed determined by national and local data and guidance. We are not just going back to pre-covid but taking an informed phased approach. See RA for clarity
- Staggered lunchtimes to continue in the hall until end of September. New lunchtime arrangements will be risk assessed.
- Where pupils are not in school due to positive results or isolating for other reasons school staff will involve remote learning protocols to ensure that pupils do not suffer lost learning.
- Should an outbreak result in the need to restrict attendance, critical worker pupils would still attend school
- Educational visits and visitors can be arranged with additional protocols to minimise risk of virus transmission.
- Public Health Advice will be sought when outbreak thresholds are met;
 - 5 children, pupils, students or staff, who are likely to have mixed closely, test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period; or
 - 10% of children, pupils, students or staff who are likely to have mixed closely test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period if a pupil or member of staff is admitted to hospital
- Any necessary communication to parents via letter (emailed) ready to go from school office. Remote learning protocols have left a positive lasting impact upon school communication to parents via email.

Safeguarding

- No change to safeguarding arrangements in line with new updates KCSIE2021
- NYPS operates with a team of safeguarding leads so it is highly unlikely that there is no member of the team to advise or take action.
- Continue to follow up absence for vulnerable pupils and have procedures in place to maintain contact with pupils not in school (see RA)
- Continue to engage with known families causing concern.

Extracts from government contingency framework document

- Under-18s, irrespective of their vaccination status, and double vaccinated adults will not need to self-isolate if they are a close contact of a positive case. They will be strongly advised to take a PCR test and, if positive, will need to isolate. 18- year-olds will be treated in the same way as children until 6 months after their 18th birthday, to allow them the opportunity to get fully vaccinated.
- Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms or a positive test result should stay at home and self-isolate immediately. If you have symptoms of COVID-19, you should arrange to have a PCR test as soon as possible. This still applies even if you have received one or more doses of COVID-19 vaccine.
- If you live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, you should stay at home and self-isolate. From 16 August, if you are fully vaccinated or aged under 18 years and 6 months **you will not be required to self-isolate if you are a contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19**.
- Such non isolating cases will be expected to minimise contact with others, wear a face covering and take part in LF Testing