



Managing Cases of Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Schools

Introduction

Our plans for a full reopening in September have been designed to both deliver a broad and balanced curriculum for all of our pupils, while also effectively reducing risks in our school and creating an inherently safer environment.

The systems we have put in place to minimise these risks fall into two categories; prevention and response to infection.

Prevention:

- 1) minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school
- 2) clean hands thoroughly more often than usual
- 3) ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
- 4) introduce enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents and bleach
- 5) minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible
- 6) where necessary, wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)

Response to any infection:

- 7) engage with the NHS Test and Trace process
- 8) manage confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) amongst the school community
- 9) contain any outbreak by following local health protection team advice

Points 2 – 5 are fully covered through our amended timetables for September alongside the further details which outline the actions expected of all members of our school community. Point 6 is only applicable in our setting to those dealing with first aid situations where social distancing cannot be maintained.

The following document outlines how we will be following points 1, 7, 8 and 9.

Identifying Symptoms and Actions to be Taken



The first stage is to minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school.

All members of our school community must take full responsibility for this and act with honesty and openness to ensure everyone's safety.

If anyone in the school becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they will be sent home and advised to follow 'stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection' (link below) which sets out that they must self-isolate for at least 7 days. Other members of their household (including any siblings) should self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms. Please note, it is not necessary for all members of the student's school 'bubble' to isolate unless a positive test is confirmed. Staff will be maintaining 2m social distancing at all times so are not attached to any student bubble.

In addition, they must arrange to have a test to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19) which can be booked easily using the link at the bottom of this document. Staff at WKGS should use the self-referral option for essential workers.

If a student is awaiting collection having become unwell with any of the symptoms above, they will be moved, if possible, to a room where they can be isolated behind a closed door, depending on the age and needs of the child. Otherwise, they will be moved to an area which is at least 2 metres away from other people.

Engaging with the NHS Test and Trace process and Managing Confirmed Cases

As stated above, staff and students must book a test if they are displaying symptoms. Staff and pupils must not come into the school if they have symptoms, and must be sent home to self-isolate if they develop them in school.

In the case of a positive or negative test, students and staff must immediately inform the School. In the case of a positive test, the School will provide details of anyone the student or staff member has been in close contact with to PHE North West and the NHS Track and Trace team.

All students who are in the same school bubble as a student in receipt of a positive test will be asked to isolate for 14 days and the NHS Track and Trace team will assess if any further isolations are necessary. If any members of the school bubble who are isolating develop symptoms during this time, they must follow the Staying at Home guidance below and immediately book a test.



Contain any outbreak by following local health protection team advice

If the School was to have two or more confirmed cases within 14 days, or an overall rise in sickness absence where coronavirus (COVID-19) was suspected, it may be considered to have an outbreak, and the School will then work closely with the local health protection team who will be able to advise if additional action is required.

Remote Learning

If a student is isolating while they await the results of a test, they should follow the normal absence procedures. If an entire school bubble is asked to isolate, staff will deliver those lessons via Microsoft Teams and all students will be expected to log-in to the app and join their lessons as per their timetable. Staff will be delivering these lessons from school as part of the normal school day.

If a staff member is unwell and isolating, the School's normal cover procedures will be followed. If a staff member is isolating as a result of a member of their household testing positive or exhibiting symptoms, it is expected that lessons will be delivered remotely via Microsoft Teams. A cover teacher will be used to log in to Microsoft Teams to access the lesson for the students in school.

Stay at Home: Guidance for Households with Possible or Confirmed Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Infection - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>

Coronavirus (COVID-19): Getting Tested - <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested>

NHS COVID-19 Testing and Tracing Website - <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/>