



## **Contingency Plans for Outbreaks (COVID-19)**

### **Introduction**

To complement our plans for reopening, the following document outlines the School's plans for continuing education in the event of a confirmed case or cases of COVID-19.

### **Scenarios:**

The following scenarios will each be addressed, outlining our plans for education in each case:

- A. No current confirmed cases in the School
- B. Several confirmed cases
- C. Significant increase in infection rates in the local community resulting in 'enhanced support' from Public Health

### **Response to Scenario A:**

In this scenario, the School will operate as normal and in line with the current Risk Assessment. 'Bubbles' of students have been removed along with advice to wear face coverings in classrooms and communal areas, but regular hand washing should be maintained along with the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' programme to promote good hygiene. All occupied spaces must be kept well ventilated.

All education will take place on site with assemblies and activities involving mixed year groups allowed to resume. Students will be offered 2 asymptomatic tests on their return to site in September and the NHS will now be responsible for all contact tracing.

If a student has to self-isolate lessons will be available via Microsoft Teams at the normally scheduled times.

Staff members identified as close contacts will not be required to isolate if they are double vaccinated. Any staff who are isolating for the reasons above will be expected to deliver their normal curriculum lessons via Microsoft Teams to the class who will be on the school site.

### **Response to Scenario B:**

In the event of Scenario B, the document 'Managing Cases of Coronavirus' will be followed to effectively respond to any confirmed cases of the virus.

Any member of the School community displaying symptoms must isolate for 10 days and immediately book a PCR test. Staff or students requesting a test must inform the school of the outcome as soon as it is received. In the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19 amongst the School community, NHS Track and Trace Team will be informed immediately and they will identify which members of the School community have been in 'close contact' with that individual. Students under the age of 18 will not be required to self-isolate but may be advised by NHS Track & Trace to take a PCR test. If you are not



contacted, there is no need to take a PCR test. The School will no longer be involved in the track and trace process unless contacted by the NHS for assistance.

All teaching rooms at WKGS are fully equipped with an interactive TV and microphone so that teaching can continue to take place in classrooms as usual but with a Microsoft Teams link for those students not able to be on site due to isolation. Teachers having to self-isolate, but not displaying symptoms, will be asked to teach via Microsoft Teams which can then be broadcast both to the classroom and to individuals who are off-site.

If staff are displaying symptoms, the usual expectations for ill health and cover will be in place. Further details are available for staff detailing how to set work remotely for cover. If students are displaying symptoms and are too unwell to access lessons remotely, they should speak with their Head of Year on their return to coordinate any work that should be caught up.

If individual students are absent from school for any other reason (but this is not a confirmed case of COVID-19), normal school absence protocol applies and students are expected to catch up with work where possible. Teaching will continue in school, as normal.

### **Response to Scenario C:**

In the event of a localised outbreak where Public Health Wirral identify the area as requiring 'enhanced support', previous restrictions may be reintroduced in order to minimise the risk of transmission. The following systems may be introduced in communication with the Public Health Director:

- A temporary Asymptomatic Testing Site may be established to help identify cases in the school and more accurately identify potential close contacts.
- Increased home asymptomatic testing may be advised.
- Face coverings may be advised for staff and students in communal areas, including classrooms.
- Bubbles may need to be reintroduced, resulting in the issuing of new timetables to minimise movement around the school site. The one-way system may also need to be reintroduced if this is the case.
- Mass gatherings such as assemblies should be suspended.
- Educational visits will be reassessed to determine if they are still appropriate and safe.
- Shielding would only be reintroduced in the event of a major outbreak and would be done so by the government, not the school.
- Access to the school site by visitors (including for events such as Open Days/Evenings) will be reassessed to consider if the event is still appropriate and safe.
- In the event that some attendance restrictions are advised, students in Years 10, 11, 12 and 13 would still be able to access site along with children of critical workers or those identified as vulnerable. If further restrictions were required those identified as vulnerable or children of critical workers would still be allowed to attend.