



Arbour House School

COVID-19: Outbreak Management Plan

Approved by:

Julie Perks – Headteacher

Date: 2nd September 2021

Bettina Jeppesen – Regional Director

Last reviewed on:

6th December 2021

Next review due by:

7th March 2022

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 may 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), UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) health protection team or the national government.

It may be necessary to implement these measures in the following circumstances:

- To help manage a COVID-19 outbreak within the school. Actions will be considered when the following threshold is met:
 - There are 2 positive cases among pupils or staff who are likely to have mixed closely 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 at the school.

We will also seek public health advice from a Director of Public Health or Health Protection Team. Julie Perks, Headteacher, will be responsible for seeking this advice, and will do so by telephoning the DfE helpline (0800 046 8687).

3. Testing

If necessary, we will increase the use of home testing by staff and pupils who are able to test in Year 7 and above.

If it is advised that we reintroduce an asymptomatic testing site (ATS) at our school, we will consult with the Director of Public Health (DsPH) to discuss any further support we need to do this.

If we reintroduce on-site asymptomatic testing to all staff will be tested on site twice weekly and we will encourage all secondary aged pupils to participate in that testing if at all possible.

4. Face Coverings

If deemed necessary pupils, 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 corridors.

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.

4. Other Measures

Parents, carers, pupils and staff will be informed promptly about the introduction of control measures.

This will be done via telephone calls to all parent/carers and discussion with pupils as appropriate following consultation with their parent/carers, in the context of their SEN.

This will then be followed up by letters sent home with pupils, once a decision has been made.

We will also ensure staff are informed promptly via email.

If deemed necessary, we will limit:

- Educational visits
- Open days and events at the school
- Transition or taster days to our school, or from our school to other schools/colleges or to other provision
- Parent/carers/visitors coming into school. Appointments and meetings will be held remotely.

If deemed necessary, we will (re)introduce:

- Bubbles, to reduce mixing between groups
- Face coverings in communal areas and classrooms for staff and visitors (unless exempt)

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 attendance restrictions are recommended, we will stay open if at all possible for:

- Pupils with an EHCP (vulnerable pupils)
- Pupils for whom there are Safeguarding or Child Protection concerns. (vulnerable pupils)
- Children of critical workers

5.2 Education and Support for Pupils at Home in the Event of Self-Isolation and/or Unavoidable Closure:

In the event of unavoidable closure to pupils, or set pupils/classes/year groups being unable to access education as a result of insufficient staff on site to meet pupils' needs or keep them safe, 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' section on the school website and in the information detailing the Remote Learning arrangements in place that have been sent home.

Remote Learning arrangements acknowledge that for some of our pupils remote education may be very challenging. Some pupils may not be able to manage a full day online; others may not be able to access Remote Learning at all. In this circumstance, work will be provided for pupils to complete at home, independently or with parent/carer support where possible, and the school will endeavour to maintain contact with those pupils via alternative means and continue to support the parent/carer to support the pupil.

Some pupils who may have Covid or may need to self-isolate themselves may still feel well enough to access remote education. This can be discussed directly with your child's teacher.

5.3 Safeguarding

We will review our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and Procedures to make sure they reflect the local restrictions and remain effective.

We will aim to have a trained Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputy DSL on site wherever possible.

If our DSL (or Deputy DSL) cannot be on site, they can be contacted remotely by making initial contact with the School Office on 01305 781400 or by emailing arbouradmin@potens-education.com

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 can access remote education provision