COVID-19: Outbreak Management Plan

Boughton Primary School

2021 - 2022

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Overview

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.

1. Introduction

All education settings need to have a COVID-19 Outbreak Management Plan (C-19OMP) in place, which it may be necessary to implement 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

In addition, the following circumstances may lead to the implementation of the C-19OMP:

> 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. Either the Head Teacher, or an approver of this plan, will be responsible for seeking this advice, and will do so by telephoning the DfE helpline (0800 046 8687, option 1) or in line with any other local arrangements in place at the time.

3. Shielding

In the event of the reintroduction of shielding, we will adhere to national guidance, 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

Parents, carers, pupils and staff will be informed promptly about the introduction of control measures. This will be done via our usual communication channels (emails, Tapestry, School News and/or Google Classroom) once a decision has been made.

If recommended, we will limit:

> Residential educational visits

> Open days

> Transition or taster days

> Parents coming into school

> Live performances

If recommended, we will (re)introduce:

> Additional testing for staff

> 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.
If we reach 5 positive cases within one class, we will consider whether to close the class as a circuit-breaker, in order to limit further transmission.

5.1 Eligibility to remain in school

If restrictions are recommended, for the whole school, we will stay open for:

> Vulnerable pupils

> Children of DfE-identified critical workers, according to the guidance in place at the time of restrictions

In the event of a circuit-breaker for a bubble, which will usually be for a short and time-limited period, there will not be the option for attendance. This is in order to ensure that we can fully break all chains of transmission.

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 Education Plan on the school website.
The school will continue to provide meals or lunch parcels for pupils eligible for benefits-related free school meals while they are not attending school because of COVID-19 isolation guidelines. Details for distribution will be communicated to the individuals concerned when necessary.

5.3 Wraparound care

The Wraparound provision at Boughton Primary School is a separate business, run by RD Daycare; they will limit access to wraparound care during term time, in line with restrictions in place at the time. They 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 on site wherever possible.
If our DSL (or deputies) can't be on site, they can be contacted remotely by email, and can be available to make telephone or video calls.
On occasions where there is no DSL or deputy on site, a senior leader will take responsibility for co-ordinating safeguarding on site.
In an emergency, we have the agreement to contact our cluster colleagues for support or advice (as stated within our Business Continuity Plan). Our cluster contact is the DSL at The Bramptons Primary School, 01604 842078.
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
> Strongly 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

Definition of "close mixing"

Identifying a group that is likely to have mixed closely will be different for each setting, but some examples include:
- A class
- A friendship group mixing at breaktimes
- A sports team
- A group in an after-school activity/club