

COVID-19: outbreak management plan

The Chantry School



Approved by:	Andrew Dickenson	Date: 20th August 2021
Last reviewed on:	14th December 2021	
Next review due by:	31st January 2021	

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1. Introduction

This plan is based on the [contingency framework for managing local outbreaks](#) of COVID-19 and the [schools operational guidance from step 4](#), published 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), director of public health (DsPH), Public Health England (PHE) 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
- › 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)

2. Testing

We offer 2 lateral flow tests to all pupils on their return to school in September. We will also ask pupils to test once at home before they attend their first day at school.

We will maintain a stock of lateral flow tests so that we can encourage continual home testing, as specified by latest government advice.

If recommended, we will increase the use of home testing by pupils and staff. 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:

- › Testing would take place in line with government guidance; we have capacity to manage 2 tests per week.
All pupils will be offered a test on their return to school in January and will be encouraged to test at home the night before return.
- › Testing would take place in the Sports Hall / Hall according to demand
- › All pupils will be offered on-site testing in the event that government or local PH require this measure

We will maintain a capacity to carry out individual on site lateral flow tests on an indefinite basis.

3. Face coverings

If recommended, 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 **Introduced from 29th November as per government requirements.**

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

We will maintain the use of face coverings on school transport whilst guidance to that effect is in force.

Any student or member of staff who wishes to wear a face covering at any time may do so.

4. Shielding

We will adhere to national guidance on the reintroduction of shielding, 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.

5. Other measures

We will take measures to limit the mixing between and within year groups as necessary. These will include:

- › Strict adherence to bubble social areas
- › Limit gatherings such as year group assemblies and cross year clubs
- › Amend the school day to reduce contacts as much as possible e.g remove overlap of lunchtimes at 12:40

If recommended, we will limit:

- › Residential / day educational visits
- › Open days
- › Transition or taster days
- › Parents coming into school
- › Live performances
- › International visits – currently suspended pending clearer understanding of travel implications and insurance regarding potential isolation in a foreign country

If recommended, we will reintroduce:

- › Bubbles, to reduce mixing between groups
- › Long lessons, to reduce the number of contacts between individuals

6. Attendance restrictions

Attendance restrictions will only be recommended as a last resort. If recommended, we will implement the measures in this section.

6.1 Eligibility to remain in school

In the first instance, we will stay open for:

- › Vulnerable pupils
- › Children of critical workers
- › Year 10 and 11 pupils
- › Any other pupils due to take external exams this academic year

If further restrictions are recommended, we will stay open for:

- › Vulnerable pupils
- › Children of critical workers

6.2 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 School Closure Remote Learning Policy

The school will continue to provide meals or vouchers for pupils eligible for benefits-related free school meals while they are not attending school because of COVID-19 isolation guidelines.

Any pupil who is isolating on an individual basis will continue to have work set and can join lessons as appropriate via Teams.

6.4 Safeguarding

We will review our child protection policy to make sure it reflects the local restrictions and remains effective.

We will always have a trained DSL or deputy DSL on site whenever the school is open, even when attendance is highly restricted.

Should this arrangement not be possible the contingency will be for a senior leader will take responsibility for co-ordinating safeguarding on site.