

## Covid 19 Outbreak Management Plan 2021

Dear parents and carers,

The DfE requires all schools and similar educational settings to have in place an outbreak management plan in the event of a Covid outbreak in school. We have developed a comprehensive plan which is available on our website [www.expanselarning.co.uk](http://www.expanselarning.co.uk) under the policies section of the school pages.

The key principle is to ensure that every student receives the quantity and quality of education and care to which they are normally entitled. The outbreak management plan will be considered and applied following guidance from the Director of Public Health in the event of any such outbreak in school. The information contained below is a handy summary of the actions we may take in the event of an outbreak in school.

### Testing: Possible Strategies

- Increase the use of home testing by staff and students.
- School may be offered an enhanced response package - directed by the Director of Public Health.
- Reintroduce the Asymptomatic Testing Site (ATS) in school. The Director of Public Health will inform the DfE and Regional Schools Commissioner when this recommended.

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## Face Coverings

In response to an outbreak, school may advise that Face Coverings should be temporarily worn more widely in school.

This may include:

- Communal areas.
- Classrooms.
- Staff and students.

Any guidance at this time will allow for reasonable exemptions for their use: These measures may be advised:

- For school by the Director of Public Health as their responsibility in outbreak management.
- As part of the enhanced response package.

In all cases educational drawbacks in the recommended use of face coverings should be balanced with the benefits in managing transmission rate.

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## Shielding

Shielding is currently paused. In the event of a major outbreak or a variant of concern (VoC) that poses significant risk to individuals on the Shielding Patient List. Ministers can agree to reintroduce shielding. Shielding would be considered in addition to other measures to address the risk.

## Other Measures

As a result of an outbreak school will be advised by the Director of Public Health and Public Health Teams to limit the following:

- Residential educational visits
- Open Days
- Transition or taster days
- Parent attendance in school
- Performances in school

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## Attendance

Attendance restrictions will only be considered as a last resort. Attendance restrictions will be recommended depending on the scientific and public health advice.

If attendance restrictions are advised across an area, the government will publish detailed operational guidance for the school to follow.

When attendance restrictions are put in place and students are not in school, we will deliver remote education as per our policy and procedures. Students will log on and work on Microsoft TEAMS and attend live lessons.

Guidance for Secondary Schools is that if some attendance restrictions are needed, all vulnerable children and young people, children of critical workers, students in years 10 and 11 and other students who were due to take external examinations during the academic year will still be allowed to attend

## Safeguarding

When attendance restrictions are applied, school will continue to be responsive to all safeguarding concerns with the aim of keeping vulnerable students safe, particularly as more students will be learning remotely.

## Remote Working

When restrictions on student attendance are needed, school will determine the workforce requirements onsite. If needed based on the level of outbreak some staff, if appropriate, may work remotely. School will follow the guidance as appropriate for those staff classed as critically extremely vulnerable or with close family members with the same designated people. As part of the outbreak management strategy school will continue to implement the system of controls set out in the COVID-19 operational guidance for education settings.

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