



# COVID-19: outbreak management plan

## 1. Introduction

This plan is based on the [contingency framework for managing local outbreaks](#) of COVID-19, provided by the Department for Education (DfE).

This plan describes what we would do if pupils or staff test positive for COVID-19 to help break chains of transmission.

The overarching objective is to prioritise education and maximise the number of children and young people in face-to face education and minimise any disruption, in a way that best manages the COVID-19 risk. There is strong evidence that children and young people are much less susceptible to severe clinical disease than older people and that there are significant disadvantages to children and young people associated with missed education.

We continue to follow the DfE Operational Guidance for education settings to manage transmission of COVID-19 day to day.

It may be necessary to implement the additional measures in this plan in the following circumstances, for example:

- 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. In the event of a Covid-19 outbreak**

In the event of an outbreak:

Reference will be made to the current PHE NW COVID-19 Resource Pack for Schools.

The DfE and local Health Protection Team will be consulted.

Parents will be contacted with the local advice for their children.

The Self-Isolation Service Hub will be contacted to inform of staff contacts.

Remote learning will be provided on Google Classroom for children who are absent as they have a positive COVID PCR. The expectation is that this should be completed if children are well enough to do so.

Enhanced cleaning will occur.

Ventilation will be increased (although already in place).

Staff may be expected to wear face coverings in communal areas where social distancing isn't possible.

Increased testing may be requested.

Classes may be segregated.

Classes may play separately at break times.

Classes may eat separately at lunchtimes.

Worship may be outside.

PE may be outside only.

Sporting activities with other schools may be cancelled.

Educational visits may be cancelled.

Open days/events may be cancelled.

Transition or taster days may be cancelled.

We will endeavour to keep any measures to the minimum number of children possible, and for the shortest amount of time possible. Measures will be under constant review and will be lifted as soon as the evidence supports doing so.

## **3. Free School Meals**

School will provide free school meals support in the form of meals or lunch parcels for pupils who are eligible for benefits related free school meals and who are not attending school because they have had symptoms or a positive COVID test result.

## 4. Attendance restrictions

Attendance restrictions will only be recommended as a last resort.

In the first instance, we will stay open for:

- Vulnerable pupils
- Children with special educational needs and in receipt of an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP)
- Children of **critical workers**

## 5. 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.

## 6. 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 deputy) can't be on site, they can be contacted remotely by emailing [head@tushingham.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:head@tushingham.cheshire.sch.uk) (Designated Safeguarding Lead-Mrs Cathy Davies) or (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead- Mrs Wendy Forshaw) [wforshaw@tushingham.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:wforshaw@tushingham.cheshire.sch.uk)