



a revolutionary response to school

COVID Outbreak management plan

This plan outlines how we would operate if we were affected by COVID and measures are recommended for the school or the area in which the school operates. This includes how we would ensure every pupil received the quantity and quality of education and care to which they are normally entitled.

Guidance to be referred to:

- COVID-19 Contingency Framework: Education and childcare
- Transport to school and other places of education: 2020 to 2021 academic year
- Health and safety guidance on educational visits
- Guidance on providing school meals during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Keeping children safe in education
- Working together to safeguard children
- Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework
- Early years foundation stage: Coronavirus disapplications
- Guidance on clinically extremely vulnerable people

Measures that could be put in place or may already be in place

Testing

Asymptomatic testing is currently advised and carried out twice weekly by staff and pupils in Year 7 and above. Current government advice for schools over the summer holidays is that there will be a break from testing with all staff and pupils in Year 7 and above are advised to take a test before returning in the autumn.

To prepare for this all pupils currently in Year 7 and above and those currently in Year 6, due to move into Year 7 as from the autumn term, have all been provided with testing kits to carry out a test before returning to school after the summer holidays. Pupils who will be new to the school in the autumn term have also been provided with testing kits in preparation for this event.

Further testing kits will be provided within the autumn term if required.

Face coverings

Although face coverings are currently not required for pupils to wear within the classroom or communal areas, staff are required to wear face coverings when moving around the school and within communal areas such as the main school office or piazza.

There may be a time when face coverings for pupils and staff may be required in communal areas and /or classrooms as part of updated guidance. If this were the case the school has a stock of disposable masks available for pupils and staff to use.

There will be reasonable exemptions for their use in regards to those who are exempt from wearing a face covering.

In all cases any educational drawbacks in the recommended use of face coverings should be balanced with the benefits in managing transmission. This will be decided amongst the Senior Leadership Team.

Shielding

Shielding is currently paused. In the event of a major outbreak or VoC that poses a significant risk to individuals on the Shielded Patient List (SPL), ministers can agree to reintroduce shielding. Shielding would be considered in addition to other measures to address the residual risk to people on the SPL, once the wider interventions are considered.

Shielding can only be reintroduced by national government.

If shielding were to be reintroduced the school would gather information on which pupils and staff are affected by the SPL and put in to place appropriate actions which could include but is not limited to:

- Remote learning/working from home
- Learning resources pack
- Regular daily check ins for staff and pupils
- Regular communication with parents

Other measures

Residential educational visits

The school currently does not offer residential educational visits.

Open days

Open days are arranged around the current guidance at the time. Perspective parents are informed at the time of booking and again nearer the event of the covid safety precautions that the school has in place for the day based on the guidance at the time. This can include but not limited to, holding a virtual tour, holding the open day outside, limiting the amount of people attending.

Transition or taster days

Transition and taster days are arranged around the current guidance at the time. This includes limiting the number of pupils attending taster days on the same day, holding transition/taster days outside offering samples of our outdoor educational provision such as our WILD Fridays. It may be required that we hold meet the teacher events remotely through online programmes or offer taster activity packs.

Parental attendance in settings

Parental attendance is kept to a minimum within the school under current guidelines. There are times where parent attendance in person is required for example, to discuss a pupil's behaviour, safeguarding concerns, blocks to learning or concerns about learning progress, or express their own concerns or seeking support. In these instances, parents are required to wear a face covering (unless exempt) and to observe social distancing measures whilst moving around the school building. Where possible parent meetings will be conducted in the annex or SEN den to minimise the amount of moving around the school or entering the main school building.



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Performances in settings

Pupil performances will adhere to current guidelines at the time, this may include limiting the amount of people in attendance, holding multiple showings of the performance, performing outside, showing the performance virtually, or in some instances postponing the event. With all of these face coverings and social distancing measures will be in place in line with current guidance. Sanitiser is provided throughout the school.

Attendance restrictions

Below sets out plans to cover the possibility that we may be advised to limit attendance at the school.

Decision making principles

As part of their outbreak management responsibilities, local authorities, Directors of Public Health (DsPH) and Health Protection Teams (HPTs) may advise the school as an individual setting or as part of a cluster of closely linked settings to limit attendance in one of the ways set out below.

Where local authorities, DsPH or HPTs judge that wider containment action is needed and wish to limit attendance across an area, they should work with their Regional Partnership Team (RPT) to escalate a proposal to the central Local Action Committee command structure.

In most cases a “cluster” will be no more than 3 or 4 settings linked in the same outbreak, but RPTs should exercise judgement based on the local context.

As an independent school we currently cover year groups Reception – year 7 with year 8 starting in the academic year 2021-2022.

Independent school

If attendance restrictions are needed, all vulnerable children, children of critical workers, children in reception, years 1, 2 and other pupils who were due to take external exams this academic year will still be allowed to attend.

If by exception, attendance is restricted further, vulnerable children and children of critical workers will still be allowed to attend.

In both cases all other pupils will move to remote learning with support in place from teachers remotely. Lessons will be planned, and timetables sent to pupils’ school email accounts or their parents in the case of younger pupils. Learning packs will be created with resources where required and sent to pupils’ homes to support and enhance their remote learning. Support will be in place with online lessons for pupils and parents.

Other considerations where attendance has been restricted

Remote education

The school will refer to Get Help with Remote Education in regards to support available to schools for remote education expectations. The Senior Leadership Team will meet to determine a remote

learning package and teachers will create remote learning packs to send out to pupils with timetables and remote support.

Education workforce

If restrictions on pupil attendance are needed, then the Senior Leadership Team will meet to determine the workforce required on site based on the number of pupils attending the school physically and if it is appropriate for some staff to work remotely.

We will take into consideration the guidance on clinically extremely vulnerable people and if any staff or pupils fall into this category.

Staff will be informed and kept up to date with all changes to regular working patterns and the measures put in to place to reduce risks to staff, including how these protective measures will be reviewed.

Safeguarding and designated safeguarding leads

We will keep up to date with all statutory safeguarding guidance which applies to the school including:

- Keeping children safe in education
- Working together to safeguard children
- Early Year Foundation Stage (EYFS) Framework (read alongside early years foundation stage: coronavirus disapplications)

The school will regularly review our child protection policy so that it reflects the local restrictions and always remains effective with a trained Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL) available.

In the rare event that a DSL or a DDSL is not available on site a member of the senior leadership team will take on the responsibility for co-ordinating safeguarding at the school.

A trained Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL) will be available to be contacted via phone or online video, for example working from home. The school can also share trained DSLs or DDSLs with our sister nurseries Little Barn Owls in the event of an emergency.

Vulnerable children and young people

Where we have vulnerable children and young people who are absent, we will:

- Follow up with the parent or carer each day the pupil is not in attendance, working with the local authority and social worker (where applicable), to explore the reason for absence and discuss their concerns
- Encourage the pupil to attend the school, working with the local authority and social worker (where applicable), particularly where the social worker (where applicable), the Head of School and DSL, agrees that the pupil's attendance would be appropriate
- Focus the discussions on the welfare of the pupil and ensuring that the pupil can access appropriate education and support while they are at home by having regular contact and providing remote learning packs with resources.

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- Have in place procedures to maintain contact, ensure they can access remote education support, as required, and regularly check if they are doing so. This would be done by having planned check in times either via phone, video call or virtual support.

Transport

The school runs an optional minibus transport service to and from the school for an additional fee. This will continue to operate as normal whilst the school is fully open or if there is a partial closure. Parents will be informed of any changes to the designated route that may occur due to restrictions and given support in finding alternative provision if required.

School meals

The school will continue to provide school meals which are provided as part of the fees of the school. Appropriate storage facilities in line with environmental health and food hygiene practices will be provided for those pupils who prefer to bring a packed lunch.

Educational visits

Any educational visits will be in line with current government guidelines within the area in which the school is and the area in which the educational visit is. A full risk assessment is carried out on the educational visit, taking into consideration if the visit is still appropriate and safe within current guidelines. Before undertaking any educational visit, we will consult the Health and Safety guidance on Educational visits (2018) and follow advice.