

# CROSSHALL JUNIOR SCHOOL

## OUTBREAK MANAGEMENT PLAN



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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](#), 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.

It may be necessary to implement these measures in the following circumstances, for example:

- to help manage a COVID-19 outbreak within the school. Actions will be considered when either of the following thresholds are met:
  - there are **five positive cases** amongst students or staff who are likely to have mixed closely within a 10-day period;
  - **10% of students (45) or staff (7)** who are likely to have mixed closely test positive within a 10-day period;
- 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. Anne Eardley (Head Teacher) will be responsible for seeking this advice and will do so by telephoning the DfE helpline (0800 046 8687) or contacting the LA Advice Team.

## 3. 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.

## 4. Other measures

Parents, carers, students and staff will be informed promptly about the introduction of control measures. This will be done via email once a decision has been made.

If recommended, we will limit:

- residential educational visits
- day trips
- open days
- lunch visitors
- transition days
- parents coming into school
- live performances

If recommended, we will (re)introduce:

- bubbles, to reduce mixing between groups;
- face coverings in communal areas for staff (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.

### 5.1 Eligibility to remain in school

If restrictions are recommended, we will stay open for:

- vulnerable students
- children of critical workers

### 5.2 Education and support for students at home

All other students 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 students would receive in school, as outlined in our remote learning policy.

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

Lunch parcels will be available for parents and will be delivered by our team, if this is possible – restrictions and logistics.

### 5.3 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 email or mobile.**

On occasions where there is no DSL or deputy on site, a senior leader will take responsibility for co-ordinating safeguarding on site.

When vulnerable students are absent, we will:

- speak to parents/carers and, where applicable, social workers and the local authority, to work out the reason for absence;
- encourage attendance;
- make sure vulnerable students can access appropriate education and support while at home;
- maintain contact, and check regularly that the student is able to access remote education provision.

## Appendix One

### Control Measures:

1. ensure good hygiene for everyone;
2. maintain appropriate cleaning regimes;
3. keep occupied spaces well ventilated;
4. follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.

### 1. Ensure good hygiene for everyone

#### Hand hygiene

Frequent and thorough hand cleaning should now be regular practice. You should continue to ensure that students clean their hands regularly. This can be done with soap and water or hand sanitiser.

#### Respiratory hygiene

The 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach continues to be very important.

The e-Bug COVID-19 website contains free resources for you, including materials to encourage good hand and respiratory hygiene.

#### Use of personal protective equipment (PPE)

Most staff in schools will not require PPE beyond what they would normally need for their work. The guidance on the use of PPE in education, childcare and children's social care settings provides more information on the use of PPE for COVID-19.

### 2. Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes, using standard products such as detergents

An appropriate cleaning schedule will be maintained. It includes regular cleaning of areas and equipment with a particular focus on frequently touched surfaces.

PHE has published guidance on the cleaning of non-healthcare settings.

### 3. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated

When Crosshall is in operation, it is important to ensure it is well ventilated and that a comfortable teaching environment is maintained.

Fresh air flow is vital and must be given consideration when holding events where visitors such as parents are on site, for example, school plays.

Opening external windows can improve natural ventilation, and in addition, opening internal doors can also assist with creating a throughput of air. If necessary, external opening doors may also be used (*if they are not fire doors and where safe to do so*).

You should balance the need for increased ventilation while maintaining a comfortable temperature.

The Health and Safety Executive guidance on air conditioning and ventilation during the COVID-19 pandemic and CIBSE COVID-19 advice provides more information.

DfE is working with Public Health England, NHS Test and Trace, and the Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE) on a pilot project to measure CO2 levels in classrooms and exploring options to help improve ventilation in settings where needed.

## Appendix Two

### Tracing close contacts and isolation

Post-18<sup>th</sup> July, settings no longer need to contract trace. Close contacts will now be identified via NHS Test and Trace.

As with positive cases in any other setting, NHS Test and Trace will work with the positive case and/or their parent to identify close contacts. Contacts from a school setting will only be traced by NHS Test and Trace where the positive case and/or their parent specifically identifies the individual as being a close contact. This is likely to be a small number of individuals who would be most at risk of contracting COVID-19 due to the nature of the close contact.

The school may be contacted in exceptional cases to help with identifying close contacts, as currently happens in managing other infectious diseases.

**Individuals are not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19, and any of the following apply:**

- **they are fully vaccinated;**
- **they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months;**
- **they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial;**
- **they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons.**

Instead, they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so.

Staff who do not need to isolate, and children and young people aged under 18 years 6 months who usually attend school, and have been identified as a close contact, should continue to attend school as normal. They do not need to wear a face covering within the school, but it is expected and recommended that these are worn when travelling on public or dedicated transport.

Settings will continue to have a role in working with health protection teams in the case of a local outbreak. If there is a substantial increase in the number of positive cases in a setting or if central government offers the area an enhanced response package, a director of public health might advise a setting to temporarily reintroduce some control measures.