

Muswell Hill Primary School

COVID-19: outbreak management plan



Respect Integrity Curiosity Resilience Creativity

Approved by: Governing Body Date: 3/9/21

Next review due by: 10/9/21

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 5 positive cases amongst pupils or staff who are likely to have mixed closely within a 10-day period**
 - **10% of pupils or staff who are likely to have mixed closely test positive within a 10-day period**
- or
- There is evidence of severe illness e.g. children or staff members admitted to hospital or a death as a result of a COVID-19 infection (PCR or LFD Ag with follow up PCR) as the setting may require advice on risk assessment and communication.

2. Seeking public health advice

When one of the thresholds above is met, we will:

- review and reinforce the testing, hygiene and ventilation measures we already have in place
- consider whether it would be appropriate to improve indoor ventilation and enhance touch point cleaning.

At this point we will also seek additional public health advice via the DfE helpline or through locally agreed support if they are concerned about transmission, but it is not mandatory.

The thresholds are designed as a guide to differentiate between isolated cases as a result of community transmission and transmission occurring within the setting and to help the setting identify when it might be sensible to seek public health advice.

We will also seek public health advice from a director of public health or health protection team. The headteacher (or lead SLT member in her absence) will be responsible for seeking this advice, and will do so by telephoning the DfE helpline (0800 046 8687) or contact via email publichealth@haringey.gov.uk

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 (refer to chart for incremental stages – Appendix A)

Parents, carers, pupils 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 adapt, postpone and limit:

- Residential educational visits and trips beyond outdoor local area visits
- Open days/meetings/school tours
- Transition days/visits
- Parents, carers, visitors, contractors coming into school
- Live performances

- Indoor sporting events

If recommended, we will (re)introduce:

- Increased testing
- Year Group or Class Bubbles, to reduce mixing between groups (play and lunchtime, assemblies, after school year groups (Plan B)
- Face coverings in communal areas and classrooms for staff and visitors (unless exempt)
- Reintroduce allocated staffrooms and limit staff mixing outside of their bubbles and reduce crossing bubbles (Plan B)
- Staggered start times for school and end of day collections (Plan B)

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 pupils
- Children of critical workers

5.2 Education and support for pupils at home

All other pupils will be required to stay at home and will receive remote education. (Plan C)

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 Remote Learning Policies. <https://muswellhillprimary.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/MHPSBlendedLearningPolicyUpdatedFebruary21.pdf> Please refer to the website to see other related Remote Learning Policies. <https://muswellhillprimary.co.uk/school-office/school-policies/>

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

Vouchers will be emailed to parents and carers as with previous practice.

5.3 Wraparound care

We will limit access to before and after-school activities and wraparound care during term time and the summer holidays to those that need it most.

We will communicate who will be eligible to attend once the restrictions are confirmed.

5.4 Safeguarding

We will review our child protection policy to make sure it reflects the local restrictions and remains effective. See Plan C safeguarding practices: <https://muswellhillprimary.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/RemoteLearningandSafeguardingOnlineChildProtectinPolicyAddendumUpdatedMarch2021.pdf>

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: welfare@muswell-hill.haringey.sch.uk

If our DSLs (or deputies) are unavailable, we will share a DSL with a local school from our NLC Muswell Hill and Highgate. Their DSL can be contacted via welfare@muswell-hill.haringey.sch.uk

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 pupils 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 pupils can access appropriate education and support while at home
- Maintain contact, and check regularly that the pupil is able to access remote education provision.

Appendix A

<p>When should my child self-isolate or miss school?</p>	 <p>NO</p> <p>They do not need to with a negative PCR</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All children MUST attend school unless they are ill. • Children under 18 (or double-vaccinated adults) do not need to self- isolate or miss school if a member of their household, or a contact, has Covid. • Instead, they and their siblings will need to book a PCR test and once they have their negative result continue to come to school as long as they have no symptoms.
	 <p>YES</p> <p>Stay at home and self- isolate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If your child develops Covid symptoms at home, they should <u>stay at home</u> and should book a PCR test, <u>NOT</u> a Lateral Flow test. • If your child develops Covid symptoms at school, they will be sent home and you should book them a PCR test. • If your child tests positive for Covid, they will need to self-isolate. The rest of the household does not need to self-isolate if they are under 18 or fully vaccinated – but instead siblings should go home and book a PCR test. Please consider staying home until their PCR results as are back.
<p>What happens when a single child tests positive?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As above for each individual case. • See over for school action 	

Number of cases	Description
 <p>5 children or staff within a year group test positive within 10 days of each other.</p> <p><u>OR</u></p> <p>3 children or staff in a single Class within 10 days.</p> <p>If there have been 5 cases of Covid across a year group, or 3 in a single Class, within 10 days, this could mean that Covid is spreading within that group of children.</p>	<p>The school will discuss the outbreak with Haringey Public Health and agree strengthening protective measures for 10 school days, including limiting, adapting or postponing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Residential educational visits and trips beyond outdoor local area visits ➤ Open days/meetings/school tours ➤ Transition days/visits ➤ Live performances ➤ Indoor sporting events ➤ Mixing between groups to year group or class (play and lunchtime, assemblies, after school year groups (Plan B) ➤ Re-introducing face coverings in communal areas and classrooms for staff and visitors (unless exempt) ➤ The number of classes staff work across and allocate staffroom times or spaces
 <p>Covid cases continue to increase rapidly within a 10-day period</p> <p>Despite the measures indicated above, Covid cases within the school continue to rise within a 10-day period with multiple classes and staff affected, suggesting that Covid is spreading widely throughout the school.</p> <p>NB: multiple classes (three or more) with more than 3 cases in each.</p>	<p>Hold an Incident Management Team meeting between the school and Haringey Public Health to agree further measures, for a further 10 school days, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Increased testing ➤ Re-introduce class bubbles, (play and lunchtime, assemblies, after school year groups (Plan B) ➤ Limit all non-essential visitors to school ➤ Postpone all non-essential events ➤ Re-introduce allocated staffrooms and limit staff mixing outside of their bubbles and reduce crossing bubbles (Plan B) ➤ Consider staggered start times for school and end of day collections (Plan B) ➤ As a last resort, consider re-introducing remote learning for individual classes for 10 school days as per school policy.

Stand down from procedures

- The stand-down stage is triggered when the outbreak is over, usually 14 days after isolation of the last case.

The school will inform parents/carers of any changes to Covid measures via email/letter