



## Byrchall High School

# COVID-19: Outbreak Management Plan

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<b>Requirement:</b>	Guidance
<b>Website:</b>	Yes
<b>Reviewed/Approved by:</b>	Trust Board/LGB
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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](#), published 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:

- 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
  - There are 2 positive cases among pupils or staff who are likely to have mixed closely 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

The school's main COVID risk assessment addresses the issues and this additional plan is for outbreak management.

The following plans and guidance is in place:

- School COVID Risk Assessment
- School On-site Testing Risk Assessment
- Staff Information and Guidance Booklet
- Remote Learning Policy

## 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 in Wigan. We will be responsible for seeking this advice, and will do so by telephoning the DfE helpline (0800 046 8687) or [healthprotectionandcivilcontingencies@wigan.gov.uk](mailto:healthprotectionandcivilcontingencies@wigan.gov.uk)

## 3. Testing

If recommended, we will increase the use of home testing by pupils and staff. If it is advised that we reintroduce an asymptomatic testing site (ATS) at our school, we will consult with the director of public health (DsPH) to discuss any further support we need to do this.

If we reintroduce on-site asymptomatic testing:

- Use trained in-school staff as far as possible
- Utilise the Gym and Hall for whole school testing
- Follow the risk assessment for on-site testing
- Timetable the testing arrangements

## 4. Face coverings

If recommended, pupils, staff and visitors who are not exempt from wearing a face covering:

- Will be asked to keep on or put on a face covering when arriving at school and moving around indoors in places where social distancing is difficult to maintain, such as in communal areas

And/or:

- Will be asked to wear a face covering in classrooms or during activities, unless social distancing can be maintained or a face covering would impact on the ability to take part in exercise or strenuous activity

## 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. Other measures

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

If recommended, we will limit:

- Residential educational visits
- Open days
- Transition or taster days
- Parents coming into school
- Live performances

If recommended, we will reintroduce:

- Bubbles, to reduce mixing between groups

## **7. Attendance restrictions**

Attendance restrictions will only be recommended as a last resort. If recommended, we will implement the measures in this section.

### **7.1 Eligibility to remain in school**

If restrictions are recommended, we will stay open for:

- Vulnerable pupils
- Children of critical workers

### **7.2 Education and support for pupils at home**

All other pupils 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 pupils would receive in school, as outlined in our Remote Learning Policy.

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

### **7.3 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.

### **7.4 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.

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 appropriate, social workers and the local authority, to work out the reason for absence
- Encourage attendance
- Ensure 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

## **8. Responsibilities**

	Contact local PHE Team	Actions	Person Responsible	Communication
Single Case in school with symptoms		Record Keeping Isolate in designated room and contact home for collection School spreadsheet updated and sent to undefined <a href="mailto:healthprotectionandcivilcontingencies@wigan.gov.uk">healthprotectionandcivilcontingencies@wigan.gov.uk</a>	L Johnson  A Finch	Shared record with A Finch
On site-testing positive case- if required		Testing Record Keeping Isolate and contact home for collection and advise to isolate. If pupil is symptomatic advise to book a PCR. Contact person for update and arrange for work for the pupil if appropriate or give access to on-line learning School spreadsheet updated and sent to undefined <a href="mailto:healthprotectionandcivilcontingencies@wigan.gov.uk">healthprotectionandcivilcontingencies@wigan.gov.uk</a> Remote Learning Policy in place and work arranged and access to technology	K Speakman  D Worrall  A Finch  P Paul	Shared record with A Finch
Notified of a positive case		Record Keeping Contact person for update and arrange for work for the pupil if appropriate or access Remote Learning School spreadsheet updated and sent to: <a href="mailto:healthprotectionandcivilcontingencies@wigan.gov.uk">healthprotectionandcivilcontingencies@wigan.gov.uk</a> Close contacts advised to conduct a LFT for 7 days	L Johnson  A Finch	Shared record with A Finch and P Paul
Threshold measure reached	Yes	Manage immediate risks Advice from PHE <a href="mailto:healthprotectionandcivilcontingencies@wigan.gov.uk">healthprotectionandcivilcontingencies@wigan.gov.uk</a> Ensure cleaning measures in school meet the expected standard.  Ensure safeguarding is in place if pupils are working from home	A Finch A Birchall  A Hudson	Edulink message and email to parents and pupils about the issues, actions and next steps.  Website updated with the latest information and guidance
Staff absence		If unable to staff the timetabled classes the Headteacher will consider:	A Birchall	Edulink message and email to

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using supply agency staff</li> <li>• Using school support staff</li> <li>• Collapsing classes</li> <li>• Organise groups of pupils to continue their education at home for a short time. Identified vulnerable pupils to attend school.</li> <li>• Prioritise examinations taking place</li> <li>• Minimise the impact on exam classes</li> </ul>	A Finch	<p>parents and pupils about the issues, actions and next steps.</p> <p>Website updated with the latest information and guidance</p>
		Remote learning policy to be put in place	P Paul	
		Ensure safeguarding is in place if pupils are working from home	A Hudson	