


Covid-19 Policy - Appendix 2

Enhanced Mitigation and Control Measures

Cidari | All Academies | Internal

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Local arrangements for Darwen St James' - A Church of England Academy.

Supported by the Trust, Kathryn Ashcroft-Gardner has been appointed as Covid-19 supervisor for our Academy to work with the Trust to ensure the Enhanced Mitigation and Control Measures outlined in this policy are implemented and bring any issues or concerns immediately to the attention of the Headteacher or Senior Leader on site. Staff will be regularly briefed and actively encouraged to give feedback on the measures outlined to ensure they remain relevant, safe and appropriate.

This document should be read in conjunction with the latest Trust Covid-19 Policy and Covid Contingencies document to ensure it reflects the latest guidance.

Current Academy Operations

In order to fully comply with DFE Guidelines and robust Health and Safety Standards, the following mitigation and contingency measures are in place.

Start and finish times

The Academy is operating with normal start and finish time. These are 8.55am - 3.15pm

Access and Movement around the site

We have visible guidance on social distancing around school. All parents and carers are strongly encouraged to wear a mask whilst on site. Parents should not congregate at entrance or exit gates; these must be kept clear at all times. Whilst waiting outside and moving around the building, we will encourage good practice, including social distancing. If parents would like to speak to the teacher we advise it is conducted outside in a morning or afternoon (Drop off and pick up times) or via dojo or a phone call.


Class Arrangements

As per Government guidance, classes are continuing to operate as normal unless reviewed under the Covid Contingencies document in response to cases.

Staffing Arrangements

Every staff member will be made fully aware of the procedures and protocols in place to ensure that school is COVID secure. This will be done via email so all staff can access the information.

Staff will also be made aware of expectations regarding COVID related illness, absence, and those more vulnerable. This will be done via email so all staff can access the information.



Any new staff members will receive enhanced induction, this includes teaching and teaching assistant students.

Any staff who are able to fulfil their role and authentically work from home will be encouraged to do so. The Trust recognises that this is likely to be in the minority due to the nature of the roles within our Academies, however opportunities to facilitate this wherever possible will be identified by the Headteacher.

All staff are expected to wear face coverings in communal and transition areas. Whilst masks are not mandated in classrooms, PPE is available to any member of staff who requires it.

Staff wellbeing is of high priority. The Trust has provided every staff member with access to SAS Medical, Wellbeing and Support. The Headteacher or SBM delivers thorough back to work interviews so that staff returning after a period of illness (Covid related or otherwise) have a platform to express their concerns and possible adjustments to roles and responsibilities, and to mitigate risk of transmission from those still potentially infectious.

Visitors to the school.

Under Plan-B, only essential visits are permitted on educational or operational grounds. These include peripatetic music teachers, children's support workers from outside agencies, specialist teachers, Educational Psychologists, maintenance and repair contractors etc.

All visitors will be required to complete the contractor checklist prior to entering the building. PPE must be worn and social distancing observed.

All visitors will be encouraged to take a lateral flow test prior to entering.

Curriculum and Remote Learning

The Academy continues to deliver a normal curriculum.

Children who are well enough to access remote learning during isolation can do so via Google Classroom. If they do not have access to a device or internet, a 4G dongle can be provided along with a chromebook. ICT support via our ICT team can be offered for those unsure on how to set it up.

Educational visits

These are still taking place but remain under review. Robust risk assessments should include COVID mitigations.

Breakfast and After School Clubs

These continue to operate as normal, children need to book their place at the start of the week for the whole week. This helps to keep numbers manageable.

Resources

Enhanced cleaning remains in place for resources.

Outdoor play equipment will continue to be cleaned more frequently.

SEND and Behaviour



SEND children continue to have their normal provision in place when they return to school, whether this be IEP time, intervention or one to one.

Individual risk assessments will be in place for all pupils who exhibit anti social behaviour such as biting and spitting. Where necessary, appropriate home learning may be put in place to protect staff and pupils. Please refer to the Academy Behaviour Policy.

Vulnerable Children

Any vulnerable children are continued to be supported at home through regular communication with the classteacher and the pupil wellbeing team. Free school meals vouchers are provided for the children who are entitled during their isolation. Plus access to online learning is available through Google Classroom.

All staff know how to report concerns via My Concern and Safeguarding training has been delivered to all staff, including new staff members in this academy, in line with good practice.

Toilets and Handwashing

Hand hygiene remains crucial, as does 'catch it, bin it, kill it'.

Good hand hygiene is reinforced throughout the day and handwashing monitored.

Hand sanitiser readily available throughout the Academy.

The toilet usage has gone back to normal.

Breaks

Breaks, 2 classes are on the yard at a time.

Lunchtime

Lunchtime, all children eat together in the hall, KS1 sit in their class groups, but KS2 are more mixed due to them carouselling throughout the lunch break.

Uniform

Uniform is back to normal. PE kits are worn all day on a Monday for Junior Jam sessions.

PPE

Face masks will be worn in all communal and transition areas.

PPE will be available to staff if they feel that an activity requires it. They will personally have the choice to wear it if they deem it appropriate. Additionally, PPE will be worn when carrying out intimate care as part of a child's care plan.

PPE provided by the Trust and available in each classroom includes:

- IIR Face Masks
- Nitrile Gloves
- Disposable Aprons
- Eye Protection

These will also be available as part of the First Aid kit for staff on outdoor duties and supervision.



The Covid Supervisor is responsible for monitoring stock levels and requesting supplies from the Trust. This task has been delegated to Mrs T Stone.

All premises and cleaning staff will wear appropriate PPE for the task they are performing.

Wellbeing Arrangements

Regular update meetings and communication are ongoing to allay staff fears and worries.

When deploying staff, thought has been given to what their experience of the Covid pandemic has been. Where possible, staff deployment remains consistent with their core role. This is the ideal scenario and will be normal working practice as far as is practicable.

Regular contact from the CEO, in which he briefs the whole workforce upon the wider Trust actions and strategy, ensures all staff are in the same communication loop.

All employees have access to a confidential Employee Assistance Programme and Wellbeing Support with Schools Advisory Service.

Further Measures

Whole school worship remains in the hall due to the size of the room and the access to fresh air.

Clear handwashing routines

Clear signage and advisory notices to support social distancing, hygiene and the practices expected.

Each class to have stocks of sanitiser.

Each teacher/ child to have stationery that is only for their personal use (this will be provided by school).

Training children to follow good routines.

Outdoor learning used as this should reduce risk.

Cleaning schedules continue to be enhanced to provide additional capacity throughout the day.

The Headteacher, SLT and Trust will monitor the impact of plans and review appropriately. This will ensure we control risks as much as possible.

