



Wallace Fields Junior School COVID Outbreak Management Plan 2021-2022

We are committed to providing a rich and broad education for all pupils. The Government has made it a national priority that education and childcare settings should continue to operate as normally as possible during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Measures affecting education and childcare may be necessary in some circumstances, for example:

- to help manage a COVID-19 outbreak within a setting
- as part of a package of measures responding to a Variant of Concern (VoC) or to extremely high prevalence of COVID-19 in the community
- to prevent unsustainable pressure on the NHS

The overarching objective is to maximise the number of children and young people in face-to face education or childcare and minimise any disruption, in a way that best manages the COVID-19 risk.

Measures affecting education and childcare settings across an area should not be considered in isolation, but as part of a broader package of measures. Attendance restrictions should only ever be considered as a last resort.

Roles and responsibilities

Local authorities, Directors of Public Health (DPH) and Health Protection Teams (HPTs) are responsible for managing localised outbreaks. They play an important role in providing support and advice to education and childcare settings.

The Head and Senior Leadership Team (SLT) will work closely with the local HPT if they meet the criteria stated below.

- 5 children, pupils, students or staff, who are likely to have mixed closely, test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period; or
- 10% of children, pupils, students or staff who are likely to have mixed closely test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period

Control measures that will be considered

Measure	Action
Increased use of lateral flow testing by staff	Staff test more frequently than the twice weekly (Monday and Thursday) that is currently in place
Face coverings	Staff wear masks in communal areas. Parents wear face coverings when on the school site (this is currently in place) Children of primary school age should not be advised to wear face coverings.
Shielding Shielding can only be reintroduced by national government.	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.
Bubbles	Re-introduce the bubbles system to reduce mixing of the school community
Reducing school activities	May need to limit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • educational visits • residential educational visits



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• open days• transition or taster days• parental attendance• live performances
Learning environments	Activities could take place outdoors, including exercise, assemblies, or classes Consider ways to improve ventilation indoors, where this would not significantly affect thermal comfort. Consider one-off enhanced cleaning focussing on touch points and any shared equipment .
Attendance restrictions Attendance restrictions should only ever be considered as a short-term measure and as a last resort.	Priority should continue to be given to vulnerable children and young people and children of critical workers to attend to their normal timetables. Consider if all staff are needed in school or work remotely. All other pupils will be required to stay at home and will receive high quality remote education. Remote education will be adapted to meet the learning needs of the children, especially those with SEND.
Attending School including Vulnerable Children and Key Workers	Communicate to parents who will be eligible to attend school once the restrictions are confirmed. Vulnerable children parents/carers to be contacted directly by class teachers. Critical workers to be contacted by the office staff.
Safeguarding	Review our child protection policy to make sure it reflects the local restrictions and remains effective. Nominated DSL always on duty.
School and Free School Meals	Provide food vouchers for pupils who are eligible for benefits related free school meals (FSM) and who are not attending school because they have had symptoms or a positive test result themselves or if pupil attendance is restricted.

Communication with parents and carers will be via the school email system, Parentmail and included on the school website and Twitter.