

Mile Oak Primary School: COVID 19 outbreak measures with parameters for implementation

Scope of guide:

Parameters of outbreak management for:

- Mainstream schools that face severe operational disruption to face-to-face education

Living with Covid-19 (Transition from pandemic to endemic): A summary of recent changes

From 21 February:

- Routine twice weekly asymptomatic testing withdrawn from mainstream settings
- Routine twice weekly asymptomatic testing remains SEND setting / Alternative provision, including those units in mainstream schools and colleges
- Outbreak testing remains an option if HPT/DPH advise

From 24 February:

- It is no longer a legal requirement to stay at home following a positive test result. People should follow public health guidance [COVID-19: people with COVID-19 and their contacts - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-people-with-covid-19-and-their-contacts)
- Adults and children who test positive will continue to be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 full days, and then continue to follow the guidance until they have received 2 negative test results on consecutive days. If both these tests results are negative, or they have completed 10 full days, they should return to their educational setting if they normally attend one, as long as they feel well enough to do so and do not have a temperature.
- Fully vaccinated close contacts and those aged under 18 will no longer be asked to undertake daily contact testing for 7 days contacts who are not fully vaccinated no longer have to self-isolate
- End of routine contact tracing. Staff, children and young people should attend their education settings as usual. This includes staff who have been in close contact within their household, unless they are able to work from home
- End of the legal obligation for individuals to tell their employers when they are required to self-isolate

From 1 April:

- Withdrawn current guidance on voluntary COVID-status certification in domestic settings and no longer recommend that certain venues use the NHS COVID Pass
- No longer provide free to order universal symptomatic and asymptomatic testing for the general public in England.
- Consolidate guidance to the public and businesses, in line with public health advice.

Baseline Measures

Measures **all settings** should have in place at all times

- Any pupils or staff that have any of the main symptoms of COVID-19 or a positive test result, the public health advice is to stay at home and avoid contact with other people. [COVID-19: people with COVID-19 and their contacts - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-people-with-covid-19-and-their-contacts)
- [Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes](#) with one-off additional cleaning following a symptomatic case being isolated in a room awaiting collection from site, focusing on touch points and any shared equipment
- [Keep occupied spaces well ventilated](#) and consider moving activities outside when feasible especially where large groups gather, there is contact between those who would not usually mix or where singing, shouting or exercise may be taking place.
- [Appropriate use of PPE](#) in specific circumstances such as within 2m of a symptomatic student
- Review and reinforcement of hygiene measures with particular support for those where maintaining hygiene standards may be difficult.

Mainstream schools

Actions to take if they face severe operational disruption to face-to-face education

Contingency framework thresholds as suggestions of when to seek public health advice:

- a higher than previously experienced and/or rapidly increasing number of staff or student absences due to COVID-19 infection
- evidence of severe disease due to COVID-19, for example if a pupil, student, child or staff member is admitted to hospital due to COVID-19
- a cluster of cases where there are concerns about the health needs of vulnerable staff or students within the affected group*

Raise awareness of symptoms and guidance on staying away from school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reinforce baseline measures are in place and reassure. COVID-19: people with COVID-19 and their contacts - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) Advise to consider sending inform and advice template letter. If a parent or carer insists on their child attending the setting where they have a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19 (one or more of the three main symptoms), the setting can take the decision to refuse them if, in their reasonable judgement, it is necessary to protect others from possible infection with COVID-19.
Temporarily reinstating face coverings in communal areas (staff in any setting and students in year 7 and above).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When there is evidence of widespread transmission within the school across different classes/year groups.
Temporarily reinstating face coverings in classrooms (staff in any setting and students in year 7 and above).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exceptional circumstances when there is widespread transmission within the school. Could limit to a particular class/year group but decision should be made by the school in conjunction with their local authority taking into account acceptability amongst pupils/staff/parents and impact on teaching.
Managing events: This could include actions to limit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> residential educational visit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When there is good evidence of transmission occurring within the setting. Could limit this measure to a particular group. The school should review RA for educational visit. Advice for schools regarding RA for residential trips at Coronavirus and Educational Visits (oeapng.info) The schools should discuss the situation with the places they are due to visit.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • open days • transition or taster days • parental attendance in settings • live performances in settings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is not the role of the HPT to conduct risk assessments for educational visits and the HPT cannot endorse or 'sign off' any risk assessments.
<p>Outbreak testing (staff in any setting and students in year 7 and above). Not advised for primary school children.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This will be in exceptional circumstances and only if advised by DPH/LA • Many schools will still have LFD stocks, and these can be used. • Maximum of 7-day LFD testing for a defined group within the setting • All testing is voluntary, and individuals should be allowed to attend school or college even if they decide not to take part in testing.