

HARRODIAN SCHOOL
COVID-19 OUTBREAK MANAGEMENT PLAN
SEPTEMBER 2021

Introduction

This plan is based on the [contingency framework for managing local outbreaks](#) of COVID-19 and [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 if one or more thresholds are met

– See Appendix, Thresholds.

The Government will try to give as much notice as possible of any changes to the way schools should operate.

Rationale

The Government has made it a national priority that education settings should continue to operate as normally as possible during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

The impacts of having missed face-to-face education during the pandemic are severe for children. In all cases, any benefits in managing transmission should be weighed against any educational drawbacks.

Actions to consider once a threshold is reached

When one or more thresholds are met, we will consider and review the testing, hygiene and ventilation measures already in place.

We will also consider;

- whether any activities could take place outdoors, including exercise, assemblies, or classes
- ways to improve ventilation indoors, where this would not significantly impact thermal comfort
- one-off enhanced cleaning focussing on touch points and any shared equipment

Seeking public health advice

We will also seek public health advice from a director of public health or health protection team: We will do so by telephoning the DfE helpline (0800 046 8687 Option 1).

Control Measures

Testing

We will follow any advice that is given to us from Public Health and government about further testing.

Face Coverings

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

- Will be asked to continue to follow the School's mask policy of wearing a mask when entering a building and moving around indoors.

And/or:

- Will be asked to put on a face covering when arriving at school and moving around indoors

And/or:

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

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.

Other measures

Parents, carers, students and staff will be informed promptly about the introduction of control measures. This will be done via email/letters/texts or phone calls, once a decision has been made.

If recommended, we will consider limiting the following:

- Residential educational visits
- Open days
- Transition or taster days
- Parents / visitors coming into school
- Live performances
- Assemblies
- Clubs and Activities
- Rehearsals
- Communal singing in music lessons, choirs etc
- Cross year Sports Activities

If recommended, we will consider reintroducing:

- Bubbles - to reduce mixing between groups
- Social distancing
- On-site asymptomatic LFD testing
- Staggered start and end times for the school day

Attendance restrictions

Attendance restrictions will only be recommended as a last resort. If recommended by Public Health, we will provide high quality remote education for all pupils or those not attending.

Restrictions on attendance may be advised by local teams for individual settings or clusters of closely linked settings.

If restrictions on pupil attendance are needed, the School will determine the workforce required onsite and if it is appropriate for some staff to work remotely

Eligibility to remain in school

If restrictions are recommended, we will stay open for:

- Vulnerable pupils
- Children of critical workers
- And we will consider Year 11 (15s) and Year 13 (U6s)

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.

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. If our DSL (or deputy) can't be on site, we also have 2 leadership DSLs who can be contacted. If all of our DSL's can't be on site, they can be contacted remotely by phoning them or via their school email address.

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.

Monitoring and review

- This plan will be reviewed continually, by the headteacher, in line with guidance from the government and Public Health England (PHE).
- Any changes to the plan will be communicated to all relevant stakeholders as soon as possible.