



September 2021

## Covid 19 Contingency plan

(Black text taken from DfE guidance, **Red text**- what this means for BD specifically)

Staff in primary schools, should test themselves using LFD twice a week at home until the end of September, when this will be reviewed. Those who test positive should isolate, take a confirmatory polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test, and continue to isolate if the result is positive. **[Results must be sent to Karen twice a week. A positive LFT result must also be reported to SLT as high priority]**

Schools need to be prepared to implement high-quality blended learning arrangements so that any child who is well enough to learn from home can do so. **[Use of Teams to continue as in academic year 2020-21]**

Double vaccinated adults will not need to self-isolate if they are a close contact of a positive case. They will be strongly advised to take a PCR test and, if positive, will need to isolate. **[Therefore you must inform the SLT if you are not double vaccinated at the beginning of term so they can plan arrangements for cover if/when the need arises]**

All education and childcare settings should continue to ensure good hygiene for everyone, maintain appropriate cleaning regimes, keep occupied spaces well ventilated, and follow public health advice on testing and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19. **[Classroom and communal space cleaning regimes will remain in place as throughout the previous year. Hands to be sanitised or washed on entry and exit of the school. Windows and doors kept open. Staff not to gather in staffroom as ventilation is very poor. Even though 'bubbles' no longer exist please do not enter other people's classrooms unnecessarily- meet outside or by open doors/windows. One person at a time in photocopier room and continue to be mindful of other people]**

All settings should continue their strong messaging about signs and symptoms, isolation advice and testing, to support prompt isolation of suspected cases. Settings should also continue to encourage vaccination uptake for eligible students and staff.

### Other measures

Settings should make sure their contingency plans cover the possibility they are advised to limit:

- residential educational visits
- open days
- transition or taster days
- parental attendance in settings
- live performances in settings

**[Volunteers will remain limited and we will continue the use of online parent consultations for the Autumn. Open mornings for prospective parents are planned for late October and the format for these will be finalised mid-September. No residential visits are planned for the Autumn]**

### Further action required

For most settings it will make sense to think about taking extra action if the number of positive cases substantially increases. This is because it could indicate transmission is happening in the setting.

The thresholds, detailed below, can be used by settings as an indication for when to seek public health advice if they are concerned. For most education and childcare settings, whichever of these thresholds is reached first:

- 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

Identifying a group that is likely to have mixed closely will be different for each setting. Below are some examples.

For early years, this could include:

- a childminder minding children, including their own
- childminders working together on the same site
- a nursery class
- a friendship group who often play together
- Staff and children taking part in the same activity session together

[if a parent reports to the school that their child has a positive result, school office is to ask if they use a childminder and if they have had close contact with a friendship group out of school so we can aid information sharing with other parents. Inform Beehive so they can cross reference registers to look for potential contacts]

For schools, this could include:

- a form group or subject class
- a friendship group mixing at break times
- a sports team
- group in an after-school activity

For term 1 we are limiting mixed after school clubs and are taking break times independently so we can track contacts. At lunchtimes there should only be contact with one or maybe two other year groups as we are staggering lunches. When on the playground do not prevent mixing of classes but be alert to cross year group friendship groups]

For wraparound childcare or out-of-school settings, this could include:

- a private tutor or coach offering one-to-one tuition to a child, or to multiple children at the same time
- staff and children taking part in the same class or activity session together

[staff in Beehive to be alert to friendship groups and close contacts. Registers must be accurately maintained]

### **Actions to consider once a threshold is reached**

At the point of reaching a threshold, education and childcare settings should review and reinforce the testing, hygiene and ventilation measures they already have in place.

Settings should also consider:

- whether any activities could take place outdoors, including exercise, assemblies, or classes [we will move back to assemblies on Teams, lunch in classrooms and limited use of the Hall]
- ways to improve ventilation indoors, where this would not significantly impact thermal comfort [this would be reviewed]
- one-off enhanced cleaning focussing on touch points and any shared equipment [immediate classroom or work space to be deep cleaned and communal areas such as shared toilets]

Settings may wish to seek additional public health advice if they are concerned about transmission in the setting, either by phoning the DfE helpline (0800 046 8687, option 1) or in line with other local arrangements. A director of public health or an HPT may give settings advice reflecting the local situation. In areas where rates are high, this may include advice that local circumstances mean that the thresholds for extra action can be higher than set out above. **[SLT will call the DfE help line if five or more children and staff are Covid 19 positive]**

Advice might be given to take some of the other measures described in this document.

Additional action that could be advised by public health experts If you have called the DfE helpline and a Director of Public Health (DsPH) or a Health Protection Team (HPT) subsequently judges that additional action should be taken because they have assessed that transmission is likely to be occurring in the setting, they may advise settings take extra measures such as:

- Strengthened communications
- Temporarily reinstating face coverings for pupils/students, staff and visitors in indoor and/or communal spaces in secondary schools, FE and HE settings, and for staff in primary, early years, out-of-school, and specialist settings. This should be for two weeks in the first instance, pending regular review
- Increased frequency of testing of staff

**[These will be implemented at BD if advised by DsPH or HPT]**

They may also recommend the actions listed under Other Measures in the contingency framework, or other proportionate measures to support continuing face-to-face education.

In extreme cases, and as a last resort where all other risk mitigations have not broken chains of in-school transmission, a DPH may advise introducing short-term attendance restrictions in a setting, such as sending home a class or year group (as they could any workplace experiencing a serious infectious disease outbreak).

High-quality remote learning should be provided for all students well enough to learn from home. On-site provision should in all cases be retained for vulnerable children and young people and the children of critical workers.

Where they have advised settings to take extra measures, DsPH and HPTs will work closely with their Regional Partnership Teams and keep the situation under regular review. They will inform settings when it is appropriate to stop additional measures, or if they should be extended.

**[These will be implemented at BD if advised by DsPH or HPT]**