



## Walter Infant school and Nursery OUTBREAK MANAGEMENT PLAN 2022

*“To be the best I can be”*

*Walter Infant School and Nursery is an equitable, safe, secure and happy place to learn; our children grow as individuals in a stimulating and exciting environment which values respect, empathy, kindness, honesty and resilience.*

**Rationale:** Our BIG Curriculum! At Walter Infant School and Nursery, we consider ourselves to be a “BIG School for LITTLE PEOPLE”. We have designed a ‘BIG’ curriculum to excite, inspire and foster a desire to learn; we want our children to know more about the world around them and to be happy, confident and successful. We will encourage our children to have very positive behaviours for learning and to ask BIG questions and for our staff team to support our children in finding authentic, age-appropriate answers to those questions and inspire them to want to know more. Our children will learn through real-life and practical experiences, as well as through wonderful, awe inspiring fiction texts in which they can ‘see themselves’ and exciting and purposeful non-fiction texts. Our children will learn inside and outside the classroom, fulfilling and exceeding the requirements of national age-appropriate curriculums in a stimulating, fun and memorable way.

**Introduction and Context:** After the COVID 19 Pandemic beginning in January 2020, resulting in the first school closure and national lockdown, we have learned a lot about how to manage an outbreak, should another pandemic or epidemic arise again in the future, especially as we reduce the restrictions that have been in place on our return to school in September 2021.

We have a risk assessment on our school website for the precautions that have been put in place to manage the ongoing COVID 19 pandemic and we will apply certain measures from this risk assessment should we need to manage a further outbreak. It is a

requisite from Wokingham Borough Council that an Outbreak Management Plan is in place and we have followed the guidelines to inform this plan.

**The current definition from Wokingham Borough Council (07/09/2021) of an outbreak of COVID 19 is:**

- **An outbreak is 5 children, pupils or staff within a 10 day period who have close contact**
- **10% of community who may have mixed closely e.g. activity group, sports team, form group, after school club**

The outbreak could occur either on the school's site or in relation to outbreaks within the local community or wider geographical area, for example, an educational trip or transition day that involved mixed year groups.

**Additional information to inform if there is an outbreak in the context of a school or other educational setting from GOV.UK is:**

- A 'confirmed case' of COVID-19 refers to someone who has a laboratory-confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 or a Lateral Flow Device test administered without symptoms.
- An 'outbreak' is defined by several confirmed cases having COVID-19, symptoms in which there is also an association of time, place and/ or contact between them within 48 hours.

[Contingency framework: education and childcare settings - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/contingency-framework-education-and-childcare-settings)

This framework is separate to the processes in place for managing outbreaks and operational challenges. Any restrictions on education are always a last resort and should only be initiated following a decision by Department for Education/Public Health/Local Authority.

Any measures will be kept under review and should be lifted as soon as the public health and scientific advice says it is appropriate to do so.

Schools should consider procedures and other policy documents that may be related to this guidance such as:

- Back to School Plans and communication
- Risk Assessments – whole school and individual staff
- Online learning and remote learning provision
- Updated behaviour and safeguarding policies.
- Attendance and Sickness absence – ref clinically Extremely vulnerable staff and pupils and those who may not be able to attend due to reasonable concerns.

If required, we will call the dedicated advice service who will escalate the issue to our local health protection team where necessary and advise if any additional action is required, such as implementing elements of your outbreak management plan. You can reach them by calling the **DfE helpline on 0800 046 8687** and selecting option 1 for advice on the action to take in response to a positive case.

### **From January 2022:**

- **Schools will not undertake contact tracing. As with any other setting, NHS Test and Trace will identify close contacts of positive cases.**
- **Face coverings will no longer be required for pupils, staff and visitors either in classrooms or in communal areas (we have asked adults to wear face coverings on our school site).**
- **Children under 18 will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive Covid 19 case. Instead, they will be encouraged to take a PCR test.**

### **First Priority for Walter Infant school and Nursery**

Our first priority at Walter Infant School and Nursery is the safety and well-being of our 305 children, closely followed by our dedicated staff of 50+ and everyone's families and our stakeholders. Therefore we will never put measures in place that will be detrimental to the health, safety and well-being of others and will take actions that may cause difficulties and inconvenience, for the good of the health, safety and well-being of all.

[Schools coronavirus \(COVID-19\) operational guidance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/schools-coronavirus-covid-19-operational-guidance)

### **From January 2022 planning for School Operations all risk assessments and arrangements to control the spread of coronavirus should ensure:**

1. Good hygiene for everyone.
2. Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes ~ all high touch points will continue to be cleaned more often and more thoroughly
3. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated ~ classrooms purged during break times
4. Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.
5. *While not a legal requirement the government has strongly recommended that face coverings are worn in enclosed and crowded spaces where you may meet people you that you don't normally meet. This includes public transport and dedicated transport to school or college.*

## **Procedures in place on our Risk Assessment to prevent the spread of COVID 19 at Walter Infant school and Nursery**

- Anyone feeling unwell with COVID 19 symptoms informed not to attend school and to have a PCR test
- Anyone who tests positive from a LTD test will begin isolation following the most current advice from Test and Trace and Gov.Uk.
- Frequent handwashing promoted especially before snack and before and after lunch and toileting.
- Vigilance before eating with handwashing, increased handwashing posters
- Hand sanitiser available in classrooms and shared spaces at access and egress points.
- Frequent cleaning of surfaces that pupils touch especially during break times
- Children taught to “Catch-it, Bin-it, Kill-it”
- Children taught to sneeze or cough into their elbows
- Bins for tissues emptied during the day into black bags and then placed in the outside bins: The outside bins are emptied on a Monday so 72 hours will pass before collection
- Staff, parents and visitors informed of the measures in place to reduce transmission: Be Cautious, Be Careful, Be Kind
- High touch points identified with stickers
- We are encouraging all members of staff to take twice weekly lateral flow tests and to report to school and Gov.UK
- Classrooms will be well ventilated as far as is possible to prevent infection
- PPE equipment in use for staff supervising children preventing with symptoms and for first aid.
- We will encourage every stake holder to be vigilant; please do not come into school if you feel you could be infected message shared with all stakeholders via email and Friday Flyer

### **In addition to these measures we will:**

- Report number of opt-outs to WBC
- Use broadest symptom list, not just the basic symptom list. Be mindful of the Omicron Variant.
- Follow all guidance from WBC, WHO, PHE and GOV.UK
- Share Outbreak Management Plan widely with staff team and governors
- Respect other people’s approaches, e.g. continuing to wear a face mask



Early on in the pandemic, the NHS promoted awareness of three main symptoms of COVID-19, sometimes referred to as the 'classic triad':

- Persistent cough
- High temperature (fever) 37.8C or greater
- Loss of smell (anosmia)

Now there are six clusters of symptoms of COVID 19 which are as follows:

1 (**'flu-like' with no fever**): Headache, loss of smell, muscle pains, cough, sore throat, chest pain, no fever.

2 (**'flu-like' with fever**): Headache, loss of smell, cough, sore throat, hoarseness, fever, loss of appetite.

3 (**gastrointestinal**): Headache, loss of smell, loss of appetite, diarrhoea, sore throat, chest pain, no cough.

4 (**severe level one, fatigue**): Headache, loss of smell, cough, fever, hoarseness, chest pain, fatigue.

5 (**severe level two, confusion**): Headache, loss of smell, loss of appetite, cough, fever, hoarseness, sore throat, chest pain, fatigue, confusion, muscle pain.

6 (**severe level three, abdominal and respiratory**): Headache, loss of smell, loss of appetite, cough, fever, hoarseness, sore throat, chest pain, fatigue, confusion, muscle pain, shortness of breath, diarrhoea, abdominal pain.

For further information <https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/health/public-health-campaigns/staying-safe-during-covid/>



Below is the most recent Contingency Plan from Wokingham Borough Council January 2022





**WOKINGHAM**  
**BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **Wokingham Borough Council**

*Education and Childcare Covid Outbreak Contingency Plan – January 2022*

Please continue to inform us of **all** positive cases within your setting and any covid-related absences via [ChildrensCV19Support@wokingham.gov.uk](mailto:ChildrensCV19Support@wokingham.gov.uk).



The Contingency Framework for Education and Childcare Settings ([here](#)) has been updated to highlight when schools and settings should consider extra action following positive cases.

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


For special schools, residential settings, and settings that operate with 20 or fewer children, pupils, students and staff at any one time:

- **2** children, pupils, students and staff, who are likely to have **mixed closely**, test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period

| Community Covid Risk   | Description  | Actions   |
|--|--|---|
| <br><br><b>Low Community Transmission.</b>                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There have been no cases of Covid within school/setting identified within the last 10 working days.</li> <li>• Cases of Covid in and around the borough are low and/or stable</li> <li>• Hospitalisations/deaths due to Covid nationally are low.</li> </ul>      | <p>Maintaining good infection control – e.g.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good hygiene</li> <li>• Effective cleaning regimes</li> <li>• Effective ventilation</li> <li>• Strong messaging around signs and symptoms of illness for early identification and action</li> </ul> <p>Voluntary asymptomatic testing to continue.</p> |
| <br><br><b>Concerning Rates of Community Transmission.</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cases of Covid in and around the borough are of concern.</li> <li>• Whilst there continues to be no cases in your school/setting, other schools/settings are affected.</li> <li>• Further advice may be provided by local Public Health professionals.</li> </ul> | <p>Good infection control measures further heightened.</p> <p>Additional Covid measures to be considered by schools/settings – e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduction in mixing</li> <li>• Limiting contact</li> <li>• Relevant vulnerable staff and pupil risk assessments reviewed</li> </ul>                              |





| Number of Cases   | Description   | Actions   |
|---|---|---|
| <br><b>A single child tests positive</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A single child tests positive for Covid</li></ul> | <p>PCR to be taken if the individual is symptomatic or an LFT if they are asymptomatic.</p> <p>If tested positive via LFT, a confirmatory PCR test is no longer required – individual to self-isolate immediately.</p> <p>Self-isolation period can be reduced with two negative LFT tests, at least 24 hours apart, from day 5 onwards.</p> <p>Siblings attending school are advised to adhere to NHS household guidance (<a href="#">here</a>) and engage in 7 days of LFT testing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Remote learning will be provided if the child is well enough to complete it.</li><li>School/setting considers using template letter to inform community to enable heightened vigilance.</li><li>School/setting to remind parents/carers of signs and symptoms to look for.</li><li>School/setting to inform Children's Covid-19 Taskforce (<a href="mailto:childrensCV19Support@wokingham.gov.uk">childrensCV19Support@wokingham.gov.uk</a>)</li><li>Seek Public Health advice in respect of any pupil or staff member being admitted to hospital with Covid-19 (DfE helpline number <a href="tel:08000468687">0800 046 8687</a>, option 1)</li></ul> |



**Contingency  
Framework  
thresholds met**

The Contingency Framework thresholds have been met:

5 children or staff that have closely mixed test positive within 10 days

OR


10% of children or staff population that have closely mixed test positive within 10 days

For special schools:  
2 children, pupils, students and staff, who are likely to have mixed closely, test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period

**As above for each positive case**

- 1) **Review your infection controls/communicable disease** – review business continuity plans, cleansing and hygiene practices, PPE for staff/relevant (secondary) pupils
- 2) **Close contacts and timing (48 hours)**: think about the space of when cases occurred and their interconnectivity
- 3) **Invitation for the close contact group to engage in daily LFT testing for 7 days** (preferably before attending school each morning). All can engage in LFT testing if they are more than 10 days from testing positive.
- 4) **Review of ventilation in affected room(s)**: consider high efficiency filters – HP13 or HP14 – to clean the air. Ensure you select filters with noise levels less than 50 decibels. If you have any concerns about ventilation, the Health and Safety team can provide professional recommendations to support you further ([health.safety@wokingham.gov.uk](mailto:health.safety@wokingham.gov.uk))
- 5) **Be transparent & empower your community**: keep them informed of cases using the local warn and inform template. This will help with the ability for parents to pick up on if symptoms may be covid and encourages enhanced vigilance.
- 6) **Containment where possible**: where is it practical and feasible to isolate this group? In what ways can you mitigate spread into other groups? E.g. reduce mixing of staff and pupils, review risk assessments, potential limitation of: residential education visits, open days, transition/taster days, parental attendance, live performances, sporting events or similar



|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
|   |  | <p>where there is evidence of ongoing transmission within cohort where visits/events etc are planned.</p> <p>7) <b>Alert those who are vulnerable:</b> review risk assessments where appropriate</p> <p><b>Continue to notify the Children's Covid-19 taskforce of positive cases.</b> You will be linked with an attached officer to provide you additional support (<a href="mailto:childrensCV19Support@wokingham.gov.uk">childrensCV19Support@wokingham.gov.uk</a>)</p> |
|  <p><b>Covid cases continue to increase rapidly within a 10-day period</b></p> | <p>Cases continue and are confirmed as in-school transmission.</p> | <p>Further measures to be discussed with local authority and health colleagues. This may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Postponing non-essential activity</li><li>• Reinstating face coverings</li><li>• Considering increasing frequency of testing and/or on-site testing</li></ul>   |