

COVID-19: Outbreak

Management Plan



Assessment by: Fiona Batstone

Date: 28 September 2021

Last Reviewed on: 10 January 2022

Next Review due: April 2022

Introduction

This plan is based on the Contingency Framework for managing local outbreaks of Covid-19 and the school's operational guidance, provided by the DfE.

We implement measures in this plan in response to recommendations provided by our Local Authority, directors of Public Health, Public Health England health protection team or the National Government.

It may be necessary to implement these measures in the following circumstances, for example:

To help manage a Covid-19 outbreak within the Pre-School. Actions will be considered when either of the following thresholds are met:

- There is a significant spike in positive cases within a 10-day period.
(Previously: There are 5 positive cases amongst staff or children who are likely to have mixed closely within a 14-day period/ 10% of staff or pupils who are likely to have mixed closely test positive within a 14-day period.)
- If Covid-19 infection rates in the community are extremely high.
- As part of a package of measures responding to a "variant of concern".
- To prevent unsustainable pressure on the NHS.

<u>Seeking Public Health Advice</u>	• When one of the above is met, we will review the testing, hygiene and ventilation measures already in place. • We will seek Public Health advice by contacting Herefordshire "Outbreak Control Hub" on 01432 383799. Fiona Batstone or Michaela Byrne will be responsible for seeking this advice.
<u>Measures to Prevent the spread of Infection</u>	Since the start of the coronavirus pandemic we have made sensible adaptations to our practice and cleaning routines to ensure we offer our children and staff a safe environment. We have made the decision to keep the following procedures in place:

	- Any child, staff member, parent or visitor with covid-19 symptoms must not attend Pre-School - Any child or staff member who has tested positive must not return to Pre-School until they have completed the recommended self-isolation period, in line with Gov guidelines. (currently 10 days or a negative LFT for two consecutive days from days 5 and 6 (February 24th 2022) - Any child displaying Covid-19 symptoms during the Pre-School session will be isolated and their parents will be contacted immediately and asked to take them home and encouraged to take a LFT or PCR test. - Increased cleaning measures remain in place. - Staff continue to wear face masks at drop off and pick up times. - Staff continue to be encouraged to take regular LFTs. - Doors and windows remain open to allow sufficient ventilation. - Outdoor play is encouraged where at all possible.
<u>Management of an Outbreak</u>	If the number of positive Covid-19 cases, in either staff or children, rises significantly over a 10-day period this may be referred to as an outbreak or Cluster. Madley Pre-School will take further advice from PHE. Actions may be: - A more intense clean. - Staff members to carry out daily LFTs. - Isolation of identified staff or children. - Restrictions on the number of people entering Pre-School. - Some staff members may be asked to work from home. - Wearing of face masks at all times indoors. - Investigation by the LA Health Protection Team. - Using extended staff members to ensure appropriate ratios are met. - Reducing the number of children that attend. - Trips and Outings in the local area will be limited or stopped completely. - Events and social days will be cancelled. - Visitors will not be permitted unless essential to a child's development. Any visitors will be asked to use hand sanitiser and wear a face mask.
<u>Staffing and Ratios</u>	In the event of staff shortages due to staff members testing positive, the following measures will take place:

	• All extended staff members will be called upon to cover. Primarily practitioners and secondly; lunchtime staff, ie GB and JB and thirdly; office staff ie MB. • Staff with a qualified Teaching degree will be use their higher ratio of 1:13 for over 3s. • If staffing levels are still not met then we will follow our actions for “Actions following high levels of risk and infection.”
<u>Actions following high levels of Risk and Infection</u>	Attendance restrictions will only be recommended as a last resort. Parents will be informed of these restrictions, by Parentmail at the earliest opportunity. If recommended, our requests will be: • If you are able to keep your child home, please do so. • Priority given to vulnerable children or those on the SEND register. • Priority given to children whose parents are critical workers. • Priority given to the 3 and 4 year olds.
<u>If Restrictions on numbers have to be in place</u>	If it is recommended to reduce the number of children to the setting to prevent the spread of infection, we will endeavour to maintain contact with children and families who are not attending by: • Making phone calls home to check on children’s well-being. • Sending cards and letters to children who are not attending. • Recommending activities/ websites for parents to do with their children. • Delivering activities to children who are within walking distance. • Using social media to send photographs, updates and stories.
<u>Safeguarding</u>	We will continue to have regard to our safeguarding policy and statutory guidelines that apply. Including; EYFS framework, Keeping Children safe in education, Working together to safeguard children. • If the DSL or Deputy DSL cannot be on site, they can be contacted remotely on 01981 251980/ 07484748553. • We will continue to maintain contact with families and any other professionals working with vulnerable children. • If the setting was to close we would liaise with the LA about any vulnerable children.

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