



# **Shawlands Primary School**

**Covid 19 RISK ASSESSMENT  
REVIEWED ANNUALLY**

**Reviewed by D Thompson  
September 2023**



## Control Measures that are in place across Shawlands Primary School

	Active Arrangements	Plans in school	Person (s) Responsible
1	Mixing and Bubbles	<p><b>We will no longer recommend that it is necessary to keep children in consistent groups ('bubbles') as standard.</b></p> <p>Any decision to recommend the reintroduction of 'bubbles' will not be taken lightly and we would take account of the detrimental impact they can have on the delivery of education. Bubbles will be reintroduced where we have concerns about case numbers in school or against medical/public health advice linked to new variants. The Headteacher, leadership team and GB will review the need for bubbles or reduced social contacts on a daily basis based on the latest case numbers and patterns in school.</p>	HT GB Staff
2	Tracing close contacts and isolation	<p>Tracing contacts and isolation for contacts are now no longer required.</p> <p>When someone has a positive test they should self-isolate, even though this is no longer a legal requirement, until they have isolated for 3 full days (pupils) and 5 full days (staff) after the first day of symptoms or a positive result on a Lateral Flow Test (LFT) and they have no concerns about a high temperature after the recommended number of days has passed.</p> <p>Example for parents explained:</p> <p><b>COVID and Remote Learning Guidance:</b> Below are some of the key changes from the most recent DfE guidance for schools in bullet points. Staff will send work to pupils who are absent for COVID reasons only (not generally ill or on holiday) that mirrors the work being covered in class for the other days.</p> <p>Parents must inform the school office ASAP if they require work for their child, providing photographic evidence of the positive lateral flow test where this is possible (and not at any extra cost to the family). Please note that the work sent home must be completed and returned to school when the child is well enough to attend.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is no longer an expectation on pupils or staff to routinely test.</li> <li>• For children and young people aged 18 and under who test positive for COVID-19 it is advised for them to isolate for three full days.</li> <li>• For adults who test positive it is advised that they should stay at home and avoid contact with others for five full days.</li> <li>• There is no longer a requirement for outbreak reporting to the Department of Education or the Local Authority.</li> </ul>	SLT/GB  Families

		<p>To clarify, children can now return after the third day of isolation as long as they are well enough to do so and they do not have a high temperature. The rules on 'day zero' remain as per the example given below.</p> <p><b>e.g. Start with symptoms or test positive for COVID on Monday</b>  <b>Day 1- absent from school- Tuesday</b>  <b>Day 2- absent from school- Wednesday</b>  <b>Day 3- absent from school- Thursday</b>  <b>Day 4- return to school (if well enough and no concerns about temperature) Friday</b>  <b>(2 further days absent for staff)</b></p> <p>The same is true of staff/adults in school but after 5 full days (they would be 'free' from the Sunday using the example above). Please note that children/staff do not need a negative test to return. COVID will affect a child's attendance. We do log where pupils have been absent with COVID and have been well enough to complete school work as this means that their education is not missed. While we cannot award an attendance mark this clearly represents the best endeavours of the family and school to learn if the child is well enough to do so!</p>	
3	<b>Face coverings</b>	Face coverings are not advised for pupils, staff, visitors or parents. Should a visitor, parent or member of staff choose to wear a face covering in common areas or corridors, then that is their personal choice to do so. Face shields or Perspex screens can be used to further protect staff during learning time where requested. <b>We will monitor case rates and review this part of the policy throughout the year.</b>	HT GB Staff
4	<b>Stepping measures up and down</b>	The Senior Leadership Team will consider all options, such as class bubbles, separate playtimes and remote assemblies in-line with cases, class data and any relevant guidance from PHE.	HT SLT
<b>Control Measures</b>			
<b>Ensure good hygiene for everyone</b>			
1	<b>Hand Hygiene</b>	We will continue to promote frequent and thorough hand cleaning, using soap and water or hand sanitizer, especially when entering the school/classroom environment.	HT Staff
2	<b>Respiratory Hygiene</b>	We will continue to promote the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.	HT Staff
3	<b>Use of personal protective equipment (PPE)</b>	The use of PPE is no longer required beyond what staff would use for their normal work (nappy changing or first aid etc). PPE is still readily available. Staff can choose to wear masks or protective Perspex screening, for example.	HT Staff

<b>Cleaning regimes</b>			
<b>4</b>	<b>Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes, using standard products such as detergents</b>	An appropriate cleaning schedule will be in place to ensure regular cleaning of areas and equipment with a focus on frequently touched surfaces.	HT GB Engie
<b>Ventilation</b>			
<b>5</b>	<b>Keep occupied spaces well ventilated</b>	<p>When the school is in operation, it is important to ensure it is well ventilated and that a comfortable teaching environment is maintained.</p> <p>Opening external windows will be considered (weather and temperature dependent) alongside the opening of internal doors (not including fire doors) to assist with the throughput of air. CO2 monitors may be placed in rooms with only mechanical ventilation.</p>	HT GB
<b>Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19</b>			
<b>6</b>	<b>When an individual develops COVID-19 symptoms or has a positive test</b>	<p>Pupils, staff and other adults should follow public health advice on when to self-isolate and what to do. They should not come into school if they have symptoms, have had a positive test result or other reasons requiring them to stay at home.</p> <p>Anyone in school who develops COVID-19 symptoms, however mild, will be sent home and they should follow public health advice.</p> <p>If a pupil is awaiting collection, they should be left in the first aid room on their own, if possible and safe to do so. Younger pupils (EYFS and KS1 will be supervised from a safe distance) Appropriate PPE should also be used if close contact is necessary. Any rooms they use should be cleaned after they have left.</p>	HT GB Staff
<b>Other considerations</b>			
<b>7</b>	<b>Clinical Extremely Vulnerable Children and Staff</b>	<p>All CEV children and young people should attend their education setting unless they are one of the very small number of children and young people under paediatric or other specialist care who have been advised by their GP or clinician not to attend. All pupils and staff in this category will be risk assessed against developing new variants and their personal medical circumstances.</p> <p>Clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) people are no longer advised to shield but may wish to take extra precautions to protect themselves and to follow the practical steps set out in the CEV guidance to</p>	HT GB Staff

		<p>minimise their risk of exposure to the virus. Leaders will regularly review the guidance relating to CEV adults in school and ensure that leaders are making all adjustments required to support these staff. The Senior Leadership team would consider any specific needs of individuals on a case-by-case basis. <b>If staff feel uncomfortable about cases or circumstances in school they must remain in school and talk to the most senior member of staff available who will risk assess theirsafety.</b></p>	
8	<b>Admitting Children into school who show symptoms</b>	<p>In most cases, parents and carers will agree that a pupil with symptoms should not attend the school, given the potential risk to others.</p> <p>If a parent or carer insists on a pupil attending your school, the headteacher retains the right to refuse the pupil in line with the latest COVID guidance from the Government if, in their reasonable judgement, it is necessary to protect other pupils and staff from possible infection with COVID-19.</p>	HT GB Staff Families
9	<b>Attendance</b>	<p>School attendance is mandatory for all pupils of compulsory school age and it is priority to ensure that as many children as possible regularly attend school.</p> <p>Where they are unable to attend because of COVID-19 they should be recorded as code I (illness).</p>	HT GB Staff Families
10	<b>Travel and quarantine</b>  <b>(Only if such rules are reintroduced)</b>	<p>Parents travelling abroad should bear in mind the impact on their child's education which may result from any requirement to quarantine or isolate upon return. Staff members who book holidays where they cannot work due to quarantine rules will not be paid for the period of quarantine.</p> <p>This part of our risk assessment will be regularly reviewed in line with Government guidance.</p>	HT GB Staff Families
11	<b>Remote Education</b>	<p>If a child is isolating because they have tested positive but are fit and well, then school should continue to deliver remote education. See the school's updated Remote Learning Policy.</p> <p>The remote education provided should be equivalent in length to the core teaching pupils would receive in school and it will include daily core learning of reading, writing and maths activities that are suitable for the child. This will be provided to children who are well enough to learn from home but not allowed into school due to isolation. The work must be requested by parents as soon as possible and the work should be returned.</p>	HT GB Staff Families
12	<b>Education Recovery</b>	<p>The school has a plan in place in regards to ensure children catch up on their missed education during the pandemic. This will be delivered by all teachers with additional support from the school's addition provision plans- for example additional reading or maths boosting.</p>	HT SLT GB Staff
13	<b>Pupil Well-being and support</b>	<p>We are aware that some children will be experiencing a variety of emotions in response to their own experiences of COVID, such as anxiety, stress, low mood, bereavement and we have robust measures in place to allow them access to the support that they need including two adults with specific, tailored roles regarding wellbeing support.</p>	HT GB Staff

14	<b>School Meals</b>	<p>School will continue to provide a free school meals for those pupils who are eligible for benefits related free school meals and are learning at home during term time where requested. This will either be provided through actual grab-a-bag meals or a pro-rata shopping voucher.</p> <p>Where catering staff are affected by COVID cases we will work with the catering provider, to offer the best possible menu that we can and we will also attempt to provide a hot meal option to all pupils.</p>	HT Catering staff
15	<b>Education Visits</b>	<p>The School has LA insurance in the eventuality a residential visit is cancelled that is COVID Related. When booking a school visit staff should always enquire about the facilities procedures for refunds, rescheduling and cancellation, etc. Full and thorough risk assessments in relation to all educational visits will be in place and any public health advice, such as hygiene and ventilation requirements, will be included as part of any risk assessments. Pupils can now mix to attend school visits and reward/sporting events.</p>	HT GB
16	<b>Additional 2022/23 measures</b>	<p>Water bottles can now stay in school. They are rinsed daily and refilled. We advise that they go home each Friday for a wash at home and returned on a Monday. Drinking cups and fresh water are back on the dining tables and available for all children.</p> <p>Baking projects are now accepted in school as part of homework projects, extra-curricular work and birthday treats. In terms of baking projects, we would urge good hygiene and using clear, plastic tubs for bringing in to school. Please label any tubs that you would like back.</p>	HT GB Staff Families
17	<b>New variants of COVID- how to deal with infection control</b>	<p>The school will keep familiar with the changing nature of Covid-19 variants and any changes to PHE or DfE guidance. We will keep families up to date with regular communication about any changes to guidance.</p> <p>Schools will continue to have a role in working with health protection teams in the case of a local outbreak. If there is a substantial increase in the number of positive cases in a setting, or if central government offers the area an enhanced response package, a director of public health may advise a setting to temporarily reintroduce some control measures. These will be introduced where required and risk assessed on a case-by-case basis.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clean hands thoroughly more often than usual. Coronavirus (COVID-19) is an easy virus to kill when it is on skin. This can be done with soap and running water or hand sanitiser. Schools must ensure that pupils clean their hands regularly, including when they arrive at school, when they return from breaks, when they change rooms and before and after eating. Regular and thorough hand cleaning is going to be needed for the foreseeable future</li> </ul>	HT SLT GB Staff

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School to have sufficient hand washing or hand sanitiser ‘stations’ available so that all pupils and staff can clean their hands regularly.</li> <li>• Supervision of hand sanitiser use given risks around ingestion. Small children and pupils with complex needs should continue to be helped to clean their hands properly. Skin friendly skin cleaning wipes can be used as an alternative.</li> <li>• Ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the ‘catch it, bin it, kill it’ approach.</li> <li>• As with hand cleaning, schools must ensure younger children and those with complex needs are helped to get this right, and all pupils understand that this is now part of how school operates. Some pupils with complex needs will struggle to maintain as good respiratory hygiene as their peers, for example those who spit uncontrollably or use saliva as a sensory stimulant. This should be considered in risk assessments in order to support these pupils and the staff working with them.</li> <li>• Introduce enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents and bleach.</li> <li>• School to put in place a cleaning schedule that ensures cleaning is generally enhanced and includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ frequently touched surfaces being cleaned more often than normal.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>18</b>	<b>Assessing stafflevels</b>	<p>A daily assessment of pupil and staff levels will be conducted by senior leaders. Where leaders feel that the staff cannot ensure the safety and supervision of a cohort or cohorts, the very difficult decision may be taken to move learning online for a short period of time. This decision will be a last resort, after all appropriate staffing solutions have been explored. Where this decision is taken, our Remote Education Policy will be applied and parents/carers will receive daily communication about a return to face-to-face education as soon as possible.</p>	



