

# Whitehall Nursery and Infant

## Outbreak Plan

The government has stated that schools should have in place an outbreak management plan. There is also a risk assessment in place. Where applicable, the school will return to previous risk assessments.

The government states that an **'outbreak'** is when there are 'several' cases within the school; in August 2021 they defined this as:

"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"

### 1. Introduction

This plan is based on the contingency framework for *managing local outbreaks of COVID-19* and the *schools operational guidance from step 4, provided 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), director of public health (DsPH), Public Health England (PHE) 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 school
- If COVID-19 infection rates in the community are extremely high, and other measures have failed to reduce transmission
- As part of a package of measures responding to a 'variant of concern' (VoC)

### 2. 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.

### 3. Other measures

If recommended, we will limit:

- Residential educational visits
- Open days
- Transition or taster days
- Parents coming into school
- Live performances

If recommended, we will reintroduce:

- Bubbles, to reduce mixing between groups
- Face coverings in communal areas and classrooms for staff and visitors (unless exempt)

#### **4. Attendance restrictions**

Attendance restrictions will only be recommended as a last resort. If recommended, we will implement the measures in this section.

##### **4.1 Eligibility to remain in school**

**In the first instance, we will stay open for:**

- Vulnerable pupils
- Children of critical workers
- Nursery
- Reception,
- Year 1 and
- Year 2 pupils

**If further restrictions are recommended, we will stay open for:**

- Vulnerable pupils
- Children of critical workers

##### **4.2 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 (see the school website).
- The school will continue to provide meals or lunch parcels for pupils eligible for benefits-related free school meals while they are not attending school because of COVID-19 isolation guidelines.
- Parents will be able to choose whether they would like weekly parcels or daily meals. They will be asked to collect these at an agreed time from the gates at the front of the school.

##### **4.3 Wraparound care**

- We will limit access to before and after-school activities and wraparound care during term time and the summer holidays to those that need it most.
- We will communicate who will be eligible to attend once the restrictions are confirmed.

##### **4.4 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. On the rare occasion where there is no DSL or deputy on site, a senior leader will take responsibility for coordinating safeguarding on site.