



## Wokingham Borough Council

### Education and Childcare Covid Outbreak Contingency Plan – March 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, these include:


- a higher than previously experienced and/or rapidly increasing number of staff or student absences due to COVID-19 infection
- evidence of severe disease due to COVID-19, for example if a pupil, student, child or staff member is admitted to hospital due to COVID-19
- a cluster of cases where there are concerns about the health needs of vulnerable staff or students within the affected group


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 and/or there are concerns about the health needs of vulnerable individuals within the affected group



Community Covid Risk	Description	Actions
 <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><b>Baseline Measures:</b></p> <p>(Measures <b>all settings</b> should have in place at all times)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes</li><li>• Keep occupied spaces well ventilated and consider moving activities outside when feasible especially where large groups gather, there is contact between those who would not usually mix or where singing, shouting or exercise may be taking place.</li><li>• Appropriate use of PPE in specific circumstances such as within 2m of a symptomatic student</li></ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cases of Covid in and around the borough are of concern.</li></ul>	Reinforce above <b>Baseline Measures</b> are in place and reassure.



 <b>Concerning Rates of Community Transmission.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><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>Additional Covid measures to be considered by schools/settings – e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Raise awareness of symptoms - Advise to consider sending inform and advice template letter.</li><li>• If a parent or carer insists on their child attending the setting where they have a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19 (one or more of the three main symptoms), the setting can take the decision to refuse them if, in their reasonable judgement, it is necessary to protect others from possible infection with COVID-19.</li><li>• Vulnerable staff and pupil risk assessments reviewed</li></ul>
---	---	--

Number of Cases	Description	Actions
 <b>A single child tests positive</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A single child tests positive for Covid</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The public health advice is to stay at home and avoid contact with other people.</li><li>• One-off additional cleaning following a symptomatic case being isolated in a room awaiting collection from site, focusing on touch points and any shared equipment</li><li>• Child may return to school with two negative LFT tests, at least 24 hours apart, from day 5 onwards.</li></ul>
		<p>Siblings attending school are advised to follow COVID-19 contact guidance (<a href="#">here</a>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Limit close contact with other people outside household, especially in <b>crowded, enclosed or poorly ventilated spaces</b>- wear face covering if contact unavoidable</li><li>• Order a PCR if symptoms develop.</li></ul>
		<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>



 <p><b>Contingency Framework thresholds met</b></p>	<p>The Contingency Framework thresholds have been met:</p> <p>A higher than previously experienced and/or rapidly increasing number of staff or student absences due to COVID-19 infection evidence of severe disease due to COVID-19, for example if a pupil, student, child or staff member is admitted to hospital due to COVID-19 a cluster of cases where there are concerns about the health needs of vulnerable staff or students within the affected group.</p> <p>For special schools, residential settings, and settings that operate with 20 or fewer children, pupils, students and staff at any one time:</p> <p><b>2</b> children, pupils, students and staff, who are likely to have <b>mixed closely</b>, test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period and/or there are concerns about the health needs of vulnerable individuals within the affected group</p>	<p><b>As above for each positive case</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Review your infection controls/communicable disease</a> – review business continuity plans, cleansing and hygiene practices, PPE for staff/relevant (secondary) pupils</li><li>• <a href="#">Temporarily reinstating face coverings in communal areas</a> (staff in any setting and students in year 7 and above). When there is evidence of widespread transmission within the school across different classes/year groups.</li><li>• <a href="#">Temporarily reinstating face coverings in classrooms</a> (staff in any setting and students in year 7 and above)- when there is widespread transmission within the school.</li><li>• Follow advice for schools regarding RA for residential trips at <a href="https://www.oeapng.info">Coronavirus and Educational Visits   (oeapng.info)</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Seek Public Health advice in respect of any pupil or staff member being admitted to hospital</a> with Covid-19 (DfE helpline number <a href="tel:08000468687">0800 046 8687</a>, option 1)</li><li>• <a href="#">Continue to notify the Children's Covid-19 taskforce of positive cases</a>. 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>)</li></ul>
	<p>Cases continue and are confirmed as in-school transmission.</p>	<p>Further measures to be discussed with local authority and Public Health advice. 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>



<b>Covid cases continue to increase rapidly</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Voluntary outbreak testing - This will be in exceptional circumstances and only if advised by DPH/LA</li></ul>
---	--	--

**Links to key guidance:**

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

[Early years and childcare: coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-early-years-and-childcare)

[Further and higher education: coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-further-and-higher-education)

[Local authority children's services: coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-local-authority-childrens-services)

[Managing coronavirus \(COVID-19\) in education and childcare settings - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-managing-coronavirus-in-education-and-childcare-settings)

[Testing In Education Settings - Google Drive](#)