Keelham Primary School

COVID-19 Contingency Plan

September 2021

**When should a child self-isolate or miss school?**

All children MUST attend school unless they are ill.

* From 16th August 2021, children under 18 (or double vaccinated adults) do not need to self-isolate or miss school if a member of their household or a contact, has COVID-19.
* Instead, parents will need to book a PCR test but their child can continue coming to school as long as they have no symptoms and the test result is negative.
* If a child develops COVID-19 symptoms at home, they should stay at home and Parents/ Carers should book a PCR test, NOT a Lateral Flow test.
* If a child develops COVID-19 symptoms at school, they will be sent home and Parents/ Carers should book a PCR test for them.
* If a child tests positive for COVID-19, they will need to self-isolate. The rest of the household does not need to self-isolate if they are under 18 or fully vaccinated – but instead, they should book a PCR test.

**COVID-19 Risk Banding - Outbreak thresholds**

In Bradford, in line with national guidance, the agreed thresholds that should trigger additional assessment and seeking advice as necessary are:

* 5 cases or 10% (whichever is reached first) test-confirmed cases of COVID-19 within 10 days among students or staff clustered in a consistent group (i.e. evidence of close contact in family household and/or school settings)
* Evidence of severe illness e.g., students or staff members admitted to hospital or a death as a result of a COVID–19 infection.

Once these thresholds are met, advice on additional control measures should be followed. This will usually be subsequent to risk assessment by a public health or education support professional.

If further assessment indicates that transmission is occurring in the setting, further control measures may be advised, including:

* Reintroduction of face coverings
* Additional asymptomatic LFD testing
* Targeted advice to anyone at increased risk of severe infection
* Temporary suspension of some activities to reduce crowding, e.g., assemblies, residential educational visits, open days, parental attendance in settings, live performances

Where it is judged that sustained transmission is occurring, or there are other risks such as a variant of concern (VOC) or increased severity of illness, the LA/ HPT may decide to convene an outbreak control meeting (OCT) or incident management team (IMT).

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Community COVID-19 Risk | Description | Actions needed to be taken |
| Low community transmission; **no school cases**. | * There have been no cases of COVID-19 within school for 10 school days * Cases of COVID-19 locally are low and/or stable * Hospitalisation/deaths due to COVID-19 nationally are low | No COVID-19 measures are necessary beyond:   * Reminding children of good hand hygiene * Ensuring good ventilation encouraged where practical * Ensuring children/staff to stay at home if they have Covid Symptoms (and to book a PCR test) * Staff will continue to test themselves using Lateral flow tests until at least the end of September (this is when the DFE will review testing) |
| Tier 1 of local response to COVID-19 in schools – **non-linked cases.** | * Less than five cases within 10 days * More than five cases, but not clustered in a consistent group and still below 10% of the school students/staff | * The Council will remain the main point of contact for activating support to schools * School to keep reporting cases through the webforms which will be monitored by the Council COVID support team for schools. This will help maintain an overview of the district situation and ensure speedy and proportionate support to outbreaks in schools. Reporting cases through the webform will also allow school to ask for a call back from a Council support officer. * The Council’s public health & education team will form a single collaborative support team for this support. * The Council will continue acting as a gatekeeper for escalating outbreaks to PHE/HPT |
| Tier 2 of local response to COVID-19 in schools – **outbreaks** | * When outbreak threshold has clearly been reached * 5 cases within 10 days among staff/students in a consistent group * When there has been a COVID-related death, hospitalisation, or media interest * When the school needs support to reach this decision | * School to contact the Council either if they reach an outbreak threshold or need support on reaching this decision. * The Council COVID support team provide first line of advice/support to school * If school requires further support, Council officers will fill in the PHE webform on behalf of the school to request PHE support * After PHE are contacted they take over the outbreak with Council support * PHE to assess risk and advise school * Council COVID support team is involved when requested by PHE or directly contacted by the school to support liaison with PHE * PHE and Council COVID support team liaise to decide if an IMT is needed   PHE to call and chair IMT – local Council officer always involved |

Additionally, the DfE helpline (0800 046 8687, option 1) will continue to provide public health advice and escalate issues to PHE/HPTs as indicated, including prioritising higher risk settings.