

# Sandhill Primary School Covid-19 School Outbreak Management Plan

*Updated 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021*

## 1.0 Introduction

The government has made it a national priority that education and childcare settings should continue to operate as normally as possible during the COVID-19 pandemic. Measures affecting education and childcare may be necessary in some circumstances, for example:

- To help manage a COVID-19 outbreak within a setting.
- As part of a package of measures responding to a Variant of Concern.
- The government announces local or national lockdown measures if there is an extremely high prevalence of COVID-19.

The impact of having missed education during the pandemic is still unknown for many children and adults. It is clear however that there is still work to be done to ensure all children are where they should be academically and that any gaps in their attainment and progress are being rapidly addressed.

This Covid-19 Outbreak Management Plan describes what **Sandhill Primary School** would do if children, pupils, students or staff test positive for COVID-19, or how they would operate if they were advised to reintroduce control measures to help break chains of transmission.

## 2.0 Principles

Covid-19 resilience and planning is now more important than ever. This Outbreak Management Plan should be kept robust and up to date in light of the advice set out in the Government's [Contingency Framework for childcare and education settings](#).

Any control measures put in place will be regularly reviewed and changed as and when it is safe to do so. Schools will continue to respond to the evidence being provided at a local and national level and act accordingly in line with guidance.

### 2.1 Aims

- To ensure that **Sandhill Primary School** continues to provide high quality Education whilst providing a safe working and learning environment for staff and students
- To aid the prevention and mitigation of the spread of Covid-19 cases by through effective engagement with our community on Government, public health and school rules
- To support the health and wellbeing of students and staff who become infected, and their contacts, in line with current Government guidance.
- To prepare for any community or school outbreak in partnership with BMBC, NHS and PHE.

- To support staff and students beyond immediate outbreak control (health and wellbeing, equality, diversity, and inclusion).
- To identify strategic ownership and leadership of the School's Outbreak Management Plan and clear escalation protocols.

### 3.0 Guidance

**Sandhill Primary** will continue to respond to the latest guidance and advice from:

- National Government
- Public Health England (PHE)
- Local Authority Public Health (Barnsley Council)
- Department for Education

3.1 Any member of the school community (children, pupils, staff and other adults) **should not attend the setting** if they:

- Have any of the main Covid-19 symptoms (i.e., a high temperature (37.8 or higher), a new, continuous cough and a loss or change to sense of smell or taste).
- Have tested positive for Covid-19 (less than 11 days ago).
- Have been contacted through NHS Test and Trace and been advised to stay at home, unless exempt from self-isolation-

Asymptomatic contacts do not need to self-isolate if either:

- they're under 18
- they had their second vaccine dose from the NHS more than 14 days ago.

If any individual becomes symptomatic whilst in school they will be sent home immediately and asked to book a Covid-19 PCR test.

### 4.0 School's Roles and Responsibilities

4.1 Sandhill Primary has responsibility for ensuring basic infection prevention and control measures are in place, as per the national guidance.

4.2 Sandhill Primary has responsibility for implementing secure data management systems to keep a record of confirmed cases. Ensuring that managers recognise the sensitive personal nature of this information and that it is collected ethically and securely, with the appropriate governance, regulatory and security measures in place.

4.3 Sandhill Primary has responsibility for updating school specific Covid-19 risk assessments in line with national guidance. Covid-19 risk assessments are updated in consultation with School Leaders and BMBC colleagues where necessary. Risk assessments should be in place for vulnerable individuals (clinically vulnerable, pregnant women and BAME).

4.4 Sandhill Primary has a responsibility to ensure Lateral Flow Test (LFT) home testing kits are provided to staff for twice a week testing, and to pupils where consented.\*

4.5 Sandhill Primary has responsibility for the updating, implementation, and evaluation of this Plan.

## 5.0 When and how to seek Public Health advice

### 5.1 Single Confirmed Covid-19 Case

If there is a single positive case identified in an individual attending **Sandhill Primary does not need to notify any other agency.**

The school may seek support from the DfE helpline if necessary (accessible 7 days a week) 0800 046 8687 (option 1) or the [DfE Portal](#).

The following steps will be taken in line with the latest guidance:

- All contact tracing will be undertaken by NHS Test and Trace.
- From 16 August 2021, asymptomatic children under the age of 18 years old will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case. Instead, they will be informed that they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so.
- A remote learning plan will be implemented for those isolating.
- From 16 August 2021, asymptomatic staff members who are fully vaccinated will also not need to self-isolate following close contact with a positive case. They will however be asked to take a Lateral Flow Test/ PCR test before returning to school.
- Any individual who has symptoms or who has tested positive for Covid-19 must self-isolate in line with Government guidance.

**All settings should seek advice if a pupil or staff member is admitted to hospital with Covid-19.** They can do this by phoning the DfE helpline (0800 046 8687, option 1). Hospitalisation could indicate increased severity of illness or a new Variant of Concern. Settings may be offered public health support in managing risk assessments and communicating with staff and parents.

## 5.2 Multiple Confirmed Covid-19 Cases

If there are multiple linked confirmed cases amongst individuals attending **Sandhill Primary** within 14 days, the school **may** have an outbreak.

The school may seek support from the BMBC Children and Young People's Public Health team via [Covid19childrenandeducationreporting@barnsley.gov.uk](mailto:Covid19childrenandeducationreporting@barnsley.gov.uk) **when one of the following thresholds is reached:**

- For most education and childcare settings, 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.
- 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.

The school will work in collaboration with BMBC Public Health to reach a decision around what measures **may** need to be put in place in line with this Plan (see section 6.0 below).

## 6.0 Measures that School has planned for

The table below outlines: measures that may be reintroduced following a discussion with BMBC Public Health; actions to be taken to put the measure in place quickly; how Sandhill Primary would ensure every pupil receives the quantity and quality of education and support to which they are normally entitled; and how changes would be communicated with children, parents, carers and staff.

The Government's Covid-19 Contingency Framework for education and childcare settings should be used to support development of the below table (from page 12).

When should my child self-isolate or miss school?	NO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All children MUST attend school unless they are ill</li> <li>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</li> <li>Instead, they will need to book a PCR test but can continue coming to school so long as they have no symptoms and the test result is negative</li> </ul>
	YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If your child develops Covid symptoms at home, they should stay at home and should book a PCR test), NOT a Lateral Flow test</li> <li>If your child develops Covid symptoms at school, they will be sent home and you should book them a PCR test</li> <li>If your child tests positive for Covid, 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 should book a PCR test</li> </ul>
<b>Community Covid Risk</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Actions</b>
Low Community Transmission. No School Cases	<p>*There have been no cases of Covid within school for 10 school days</p> <p>*Cases of Covid locally are low and/ or stable.</p> <p>*Hospitalisation/ Deaths due to Covid nationally are low</p>	<p>No Covid measures are necessary beyond:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reminding children of good hand-hygiene</li> <li>Ensuring good ventilation encouraged where practical</li> <li>Ensuring Children / Staff to stay at home if they have Covid Symptoms (and to book a PCR test)</li> <li>Staff will continue to test themselves using Lateral flow tests until the end of September (This will be reviewed in line with Government guidance)</li> </ul>
Rapidly Rising Community Transmission	<p>No current Covid cases have been recorded at school, but...</p> <p>*Cases of Covid are rising rapidly in the community causing disruption to other local schools</p> <p>*Barnsley Public Health / Public Health England issue warnings of expected local/ national infection wave</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ventilation of classrooms increased &amp; handwashing supervised</li> <li>Large indoor public performance audience numbers reduced</li> <li>Staff-room capacity is reduced</li> <li>Whole-school assemblies are replaced with Key Stage assemblies</li> <li>Clinically Vulnerable staff meet with Line Managers to review their individual risk assessment &amp; discuss additional protection (e.g. use of face coverings, reduction in movement between classes/ groups)</li> </ul>

<p>A single child tests Positive</p>	<p>*A single child tests positive for Covid in a class</p> <p>*There are fewer than five (5) cases in the year group</p> <p>*No other year groups are affected</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The child self-isolates for 10 days</li> <li>• Remote learning will be provided if they are well enough to complete it as outlined in the Remote Learning Policy</li> <li>• The Parents/Carers of the child are contacted directly by NHS Track and Trace to establish likely contacts</li> <li>• Likely contacts will be contacted by NHS Track &amp; Trace and advised to book at PCR Test</li> <li>• The school will contact Parents/Carers to advise this if close contacts are known</li> <li>• Children do not need to miss school or self-isolate whilst they wait for the result of the PCR test unless they have Covid Symptoms</li> </ul>
<p>Five (5) children or staff within a year group test positive within 10 days of each other</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Three (3) children or staff in a single Class/Club (or Resource Base) within 10 days</p>	<p>*There have been five (5) cases of Covid across a year group within 10 days which could mean that Covid is spreading within that group of children</p>	<p>As above for each positive case</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The school will discuss the outbreak with Barnsley Public Health and may agree to further strengthen protective measures for a period, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Re-introducing staff face masks for corridors &amp; communal areas</li> <li>▪ Adapting, Limiting or postponing indoor sporting events, trips, open days and performances</li> <li>▪ Reverting to video-link Assemblies in classrooms</li> <li>▪ Reducing the amount of classes staff work across</li> <li>▪ Facilitate twice-weekly Staff Lateral flow testing</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>Covid cases within school continue to increase rapidly within a 10 day period</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Despite the measures indicated above, Covid cases within the school continue to rise within a 10 day period with multiple classes and staff affected, suggesting that Covid is spreading widely throughout the school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incident Management Team meeting held between the school and Barnsley Public Health to agree further measures, for a further 10 school days, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Re-introducing class bubbles</li> <li>▪ Reverting to class-based school lunches</li> <li>▪ Limiting all non-essential visitors to school</li> <li>▪ Postponing all non-essential events</li> <li>▪ Re-introducing remote learning for individual classes for 10 school days, as the Remote Learning Policy</li> </ul> </li> </ul>