

GWINEAR SCHOOL

COVID-19 - Outbreak Management /Contingency Plan (OM/CP)

Introduction

Key principles:

- maximise the number of children in face-to-face education or childcare and minimise any disruption in a way that best manages the COVID-19 risk
- managing transmission should be weighed against any educational interruptions
- measures should affect the minimum number of children for the shortest time
- attendance restrictions advised as a last resort

This OM/CP describes how Gwinear School will:

- respond if children, pupils, students or staff test positive for COVID-19
- operate if they are advised to reintroduce any measures to help break chains of transmission. Such measures should be considered in addition to the day to day control measures being implemented by settings, and will fall into 3 categories:
 1. Baseline control measures (green) – settings can implement any of these without additional support/approval and prior to an outbreak
 2. Additional outbreak control measures - settings should consider these actions when a threshold is met
 3. Enhanced outbreak control measures - some, or all of these measures may be recommended following a risk assessment (IMT) with local authority public health or the SWHPT.
 4. Exceptional outbreak control measures – these measures may be recommended in exceptional circumstances following a joint risk assessment (education and public health) via an Outbreak Control Team (OCT) meeting

The DfE has defined 'thresholds' to indicate that transmission may be occurring within a setting and additional control measures may be needed. 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.

Plus, additional health protection thresholds for support:

- There are any admissions to hospital for ARI/COVID-19
- You are having problems implementing the control measures
- You have applied the control measures and are still seeing a significant rise in cases.

Report outbreak for risk assessment if you meet the below thresholds is via our local process, which includes Cornwall Council and Public Health Team. We will not be escalating via multiple routes so that we reduce duplication and risk of variation in advice between agencies.

COVID-19 - Outbreak Management /Contingency Plan Checklist

Should attendance be restricted for any reason, please note the following:

Remote Learning:

Gwinear School's high-quality remote learning offer will be provided for all children if:

- they have tested positive for COVID-19 but are well enough to learn from home
- attendance at Gwinear School has been temporarily restricted

Safeguarding measures:

- Gwinear School's safeguarding policies and procedures will be reviewed to make sure that they reflect any local restrictions and remain effective.
- A trained DSL or deputy DSL will be on site wherever possible and always available by phone or online via Teams/Zoom.

Below are the BASELINE Measures that Gwinear School has in place at all times:

Baseline Measures in place at all times	In place and date stood up
Follow and promote public health guidance on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19	YES from Sept 2021
Setting based contact tracing of staff cases with staff contacts reported to isolation hub (020 3743 6715)	YES from Sept 2021
Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes	YES from Sept 2021
Keep occupied spaces well ventilated	YES from Sept 2021
Appropriate use of PPE	YES from Sept 2021
Deliver strong messaging about signs and symptoms of Covid-19, isolation advice and testing to support prompt isolation of suspected cases	YES from Sept 2021
Encourage vaccination uptake for eligible students and staff	YES from Sept 2021
Promotion of PCR testing for close contacts identified by NHS Test and Trace	YES from Sept 2021

Below are the ADDITIONAL Outbreak Control Measures that Gwinear School will consider when a threshold is met:

Additional Outbreak Control Measures		
Additional Measures for Consideration where Thresholds Apply	When to consider	In place and date stood up
Provide, warn and inform information to identified group (e.g. class, year group, common activities group).	As standard	Yes/No Date:
Strengthened communications to encourage families (not children under 11) to undertake twice weekly LFD testing; and reinforcing advice on symptoms and case isolation	As standard and when asymptomatic testing uptake is not optimal	Yes/No Date:

Consider moving activities outdoors, including exercise, assemblies and classes	As standard when feasible (e.g. weather) with priority given to activities where large groups gather, there is contact between those who would not usually mix or where singing, shouting or exercise may be taking place	Yes/no Date:
Further improvement of ventilation indoors (where this would not significantly impact thermal comfort)	As standard, with particular focus on improving ventilation during activities where singing, shouting or exercise may be taking place	Yes/no Date:
One-off enhanced cleaning focusing on touch points and any shared equipment	As standard	Yes/no Date:
Review and reinforcement of hygiene measures	As standard, with particular support for those where maintaining hygiene standards may be difficult (for example younger cohorts)	Yes/no Date:
Promote vaccination uptake for eligible students and staff	As standard	Yes/no Date:

Below are the ENHANCED Outbreak Control Measures that may be recommended for Gwinear School following a risk assessment with Cornwall Council/Public Health Team when:

- There is evidence of transmission within the setting, and additional measures will add value in reducing the risk of ongoing transmission; and/or
- There are multiple groups within the setting who meet the threshold for considering additional action (as this may indicate increased risk of transmission within the setting)

Enhanced Outbreak Control Measures		
Measures	Action	Additional planning
Increased frequency of LFD testing	If evidence of significant spread within the setting. This may include increasing the frequency of home testing to daily for staff.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise on local processes for accessing test kits if necessary • Clear communications to parent / carers, including on school website
Promoting social distancing and reducing crowding.	<p>When evidence, or high risk of transmission between groups or where there is evidence of significant transmission within the setting. This may include reducing the number of children gathering together (for example in assemblies) and minimising pinch points in the school day</p> <p>Limit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • whole setting activities <p>Reintroduce:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • staggered parent drop off/pick up times at primary and early years 	<p>Use previous risk assessments regarding implementation of any of these measures to adjust school management and organisation</p> <p>Plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clear communications to parent / carers, including on school website - equal access to teaching and learning for all • EHCP requirements will be met • Provision for SEND, CiN, CYP on CP Plan, and LAC will be met

<p>Introduce methods to reduce intergroup mixing (for example separate break times, staggered entry etc.)</p>	<p>Evidence, or high risk of inter-group spread within the setting (e.g. not via siblings or out of school activities). This measure is most likely to be effective when there is substantial mixing between classes and most likely to be proportionate when implementing does not disrupt lesson planning.</p> <p>Create:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • smaller groups / bubbles <p>Limit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • staff crossing between groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sufficient staffing capacity ensures effective curriculum delivery
<p>Reducing mixing of staff e.g. by holding meetings remotely</p>	<p>Where there is evidence, or high risk of transmission between staff and/or low vaccination rates amongst staff.</p> <p>Limit / review necessity for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • staff face to face meetings • onsite CPD • Governor monitoring visits 	
<p>Temporary reinstating face coverings in communal areas and/or classrooms for staff (<u>primary age children should not be advised to wear masks</u>)</p>	<p>Where there is high community transmission and/or high risk of transmission within the setting AND a cohort who can reasonably apply this measure. If other ventilation measures are hard to apply this may be recommended as an addition. Have clear comms: to parent/carers on your setting website on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who and when the wearing of face coverings will apply and for how long • How face coverings are made available to those who may not have their own • A system for the wider community to understand and facilitate exemption rules 	
<p>Limitation of residential education visits, open days, transition/taster days, parental attendance, live performances</p>	<p>Where there is evidence of ongoing transmission within cohort where visits/etc planned.</p> <p>Limit / review necessity for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • residential trips • sporting events • open days, transition or taster days • parental attendance in settings and at performances • staff face to face meetings • onsite CPD • Governor etc. monitoring visits 	

Below are the EXCEPTIONAL Outbreak Control Measures that may be recommended for Gwinear School in exceptional circumstances following a joint risk assessment (education and public health) via an Outbreak Control Team (OCT) meeting.

Exceptional Outbreak Control Measures		
Measures	Action	Additional planning
Attendance restrictions (see below for types of restrictions)	<p>NOTE: Any restrictions to the attendance of pupils (non-cases) may only be considered in extreme cases ‘as a short-term measure and as a last resort’ - where other measures have been implemented and have not broken chains of transmission ** IMT required**</p> <p>In all circumstances, priority should continue to be given to vulnerable children and young people and children of critical workers to attend to their normal timetables.</p> <p>Where measures include attendance restrictions, DfE may advise on any other groups that should be prioritised.</p>	
a. Partial closure	<p>Previously schools could contact trace and ask individuals who were close contacts to self-isolate and/or move classes to remote learning as necessary.</p> <p>Contact tracing <u>in an outbreak situation</u> is now termed as ‘partial closure’, as legally only over 18s who have not had both vaccine doses, or those with symptoms / those who have tested positive can be asked to isolate by NHS Test and Trace and those exempt do not need to isolate.</p>	<p>Should a large number of children and/or staff need to go home and be in receipt of high quality remote learning due to stepped up measures to break a chain of infection, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reintroduce Gwinear Remote Learning Offer via <i>Seesaw</i>, including ‘live’ sessions via <i>Zoom/Teams</i> • Provide food vouchers for pupils eligible for benefits-related free school meals while they are not attending because of COVID-19 isolation guidelines. • Provide clear communications to parent/carers, including on the school website
b. Full closure	<p>When transmission reaches the point that partial closures and/or staffing capacity can no longer maintain safe teaching and learning within the setting, the outbreak control process may recommend a move to remote learning for the whole school for a short period of time.</p>	<p>NOTE: CYP/staff are not being asked to isolate.</p> <p>Previous risk assessments / reviews of policies and procedures will be reinstated making sure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is equal access to teaching and learning for all • Provision of appropriate IT and technical support for remote learning is effective and efficient • EHCP requirements are met • Provision for CiN, CYP on CP Plan, and LAC is met

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sufficient staffing capacity ensures effective curriculum delivery
c. Wraparound care	<p>Limit access to before and after-school activities and wraparound care during term time and the summer holidays to those that need it most.</p> <p>If holiday clubs are cancelled following government advice, they should operate flexibly to ensure that eligible children still receive support that meets the aims of the programme.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting / Holiday activity provider to communicate who will be eligible to attend once the restrictions are confirmed.