

COVID-19: Outbreak Management Plan

Stanchester Academy



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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](#), published 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:

- 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. Testing

All students have been invited to attend asymptomatic testing twice on return with 3-5 days between each test. Every student and member of staff has access to home testing kits and is strongly encouraged to carry out a test twice weekly. The results of these tests should be reported directly to NHS Test and Trace along with being reported to the academy.

If recommended, we will increase the use of home testing by pupils and staff. If it is advised that we reintroduce an asymptomatic testing site (ATS) at our school, we will consult with the director of public health (DsPH) to discuss any further support we need to do this.

If we reintroduce on-site asymptomatic testing:

The academy will replicate the on-site testing that took place during the start of September.

- The testing would take place at the start of the day for the relevant year group(s) depending on the identified needs
- The asymptomatic test center will be based in the sports hall, providing ample space for testing and social distancing whilst waiting for the results. The space also allows for different exit points based on the test results enabling positive students to isolate and be collected in a safe and controlled manner
- Trained academy staff will be seconded to the test center for the duration of the required testing.

3. Face coverings

If recommended, students, staff and visitors who are not exempt from wearing a face covering:

- Will be asked to wear a face mask if it is not possible to socially distance or it is expected that close contact (less than 1m) is required for a sustained period of time (longer than 15 minutes).
- Any student traveling to and from the academy on a bus will be required to wear a mask until at least the end of September.

4. 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.

5. Other measures

As an academy we continue to use control measures to maximise hygiene around the site:

- All students are asked to use hand sanitiser when entering a classroom
- At the end of a lesson surfaces such as tables and computers are wiped
- All rooms are ventilated through open windows and doors
- A one-way system remains in operation as students move around the site
- Year groups continue to bubble during social times (first and second lunch)
- An on-going cleaning rota ensures that regular contact points are cleaned throughout the day
- Any students demonstrating symptoms are isolated in a designated space (M15a) with ventilation, are assessed by a member of staff in full PPE and the space is later deep cleaned thoroughly by a trained member of the site team.

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 a greater extent, to reduce mixing between groups.

6. Attendance restrictions

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

6.1 Eligibility to remain in school

In the first instance, we will stay open for:

- Vulnerable pupils
- Children of critical workers
- Year 10 and 11 pupils
- Any other pupils due to take external exams this academic year

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

- Vulnerable pupils
- Children of critical workers

6.2 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 Education Provision document - [Online Learning \(stanchester-academy.co.uk\)](https://stanchester-academy.co.uk)

In summary, this provision means:

- Students have access to live lessons which includes a minimum 10-15 minutes of live learning and independent study.
- All students have remote access via their Office 365 account and Microsoft Teams.
- An audit takes place of what technology students have access to at home to ensure no students are disadvantaged in accessing the provision.

The school will continue to ensure that all free school meal students receive vouchers whilst they are not on site because of COVID-19 isolation guidelines.

These vouchers are either posted or delivered and communication will be sent to parents explaining the provision if required.

6.3 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.

6.4 Safeguarding

We will review our child protection policy to make sure it reflects the local restrictions and remains effective.

We will ensure that a trained designated safeguarding lead (DSL) or deputy DSL is on site during the school day.

If an occasion occurs where there is no DSL or deputy on site, a senior leader will take responsibility for co-ordinating safeguarding on site.

If it is recommended that students return to remote learning from home, the academy will take measures to ensure that all students are safeguarded. In summary, these measures include:

- All students will receive a weekly check-in welfare call with a member of staff, such as their tutor.
- Additional welfare checks take place for key identified students.
- All contact made home is tracked centrally and any gaps in contact identified.
- The most vulnerable students continue to be invited into the academy for their lessons.
- Where required, visits home take place to check on a student's welfare.
- Counselling sessions continue to take place remotely.