

**Abercorn School Covid-19 Risk Assessment Updates**  
**September 2021**

Area of school	Risk/ Control
Whole School	<p><b>Testing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All staff to take a lateral-flow test twice a week and provide results to PC via emails as well as report to the NHS.</li> <li>● <b>Negative PCR tests will override a rapid result:</b> Staff and pupils with a positive rapid test will isolate and will need to take a more accurate PCR test as soon as possible. A negative PCR test will over-ride the rapid result meaning staff and pupils can return to school.</li> <li>● <b>Schools can refuse pupils with Covid symptoms</b></li> <li>● If a parent of a pupil with Covid symptoms insisted they attend school, leaders may “take the decision to refuse the pupil if, in our reasonable judgement, it is necessary to protect other pupils and staff from possible infection with Covid-19”. Guidance states: “Your decision would need to be carefully considered in light of all the circumstances and current public health advice.”</li> </ul> <p><b>Maintain remote education capacity for the next year</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Isolating pupils (with a positive test result) should continue to get remote education.</li> </ul> <p><b>Personal Hygiene</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Provide suitable and sufficient rubbish bins for hand towels with regular removal and disposal.</li> <li>● Ensure proper handwashing and hand sanitiser technique are prominently displayed at all stations, as directed by NHS guidance</li> <li>● Provide alcohol/anti-viral hand sanitiser at entrance/exit to be used by all persons when entering/leaving.</li> <li>● Hand sanitiser provided in each class in which teaching will be conducted and strategic places around the buildings.</li> <li>● Individual anti- virus sprays and cloths for each classroom.</li> <li>● Ensure catch it, bin it, kill it message is displayed, discussed and understood in each class.</li> <li>● All staff to monitor signs of illness and pupils with underlying health</li> </ul>

- Specialist teachers should sanitise hands on entry and exit to the classroom and between each session and wipe down/sanitise the digital device connected to the IWB and IWB before using and after the lesson
- Whole class handwashing/sanitising on arrival and before and after food and after break times.

**Control measures will remain such as:**

- Ensure good hygiene for everyone.
- Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes.
- Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.
- Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.

**Face Coverings**

- Staff to wear face coverings (or visors with very young children) in all communal areas and in lessons when practical to do so.

**Staff and Pupil Attendance**

- Pupils and double vaccinated staff who are a close contact of someone who has symptoms or tested positive for COVID-19 do not need to self-isolate. They should instead get a PCR test and only self-isolate if they test positive. Staff who test positive form a PCR test will be advised to take an antibody test, through the NHS.
- The DfE has clarified that the category of 'not attending in circumstances relating to COVID-19 should not be used to record any other type of non-attendance or absence e.g. where a parent or pupil is anxious about attending school because of COVID-19.
- Clinically extremely vulnerable pupils are no longer advised to shield and should attend their setting unless a clinician advises against it. This may be subject to change if shielding is advised nationally or in a local area.
- The guidance states that the Government will expect schools to offer access to remote education in the new school year and schools should keep a record of and monitor engagement with this activity but it does not need to be tracked in the attendance register. This should be offered to pupils who have tested positive or are required to self isolate if they are well enough to complete the work
- Where a child is required to self-isolate or quarantine because of COVID-19 in accordance with relevant legislation or guidance published by PHE or the DHSC they should be recorded as code X (not attending in circumstances related to coronavirus). Where they are unable to attend because they have a confirmed case of COVID-19 they should be recorded as code I (illness).

- For pupils abroad who are unable to return, code X is unlikely to apply. In some specific cases, code Y (unable to attend due to exceptional circumstances) will apply. Further guidance about the use of codes is provided in the [school attendance guidance](#).
- **Vulnerable staff ‘may wish to take extra precautions’**
- DfE says school leaders are “best placed to determine the workforce required to meet the needs of their pupils”.
- Clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) people are no longer advised to shield “but may wish to take extra precautions to protect themselves, and to follow the practical steps set out in the CEV guidance to minimise their risk of exposure to the virus”.

#### **PPE**

- PPE should be worn when dealing with a symptomatic case. See guidance on [use of PPE in education, childcare and children’s social care settings](#) for more information on the use of PPE for COVID-19
- Children, young people or students who require **first aid** should continue to receive care in the same way. No additional PPE is needed because of COVID-19 for anyone who does not have COVID-19 symptoms.
- Additional PPE for COVID-19 is only required in a very limited number of scenarios:
- if an individual child, young person or student becomes ill with COVID-19 symptoms and only then if close contact is necessary or when performing aerosol generating procedures (AGPs)

#### **Staffroom**

- Social distancing rules (2 metres or 1 metre with additional mitigations) will be lifted. However, social distancing to be observed as far as possible.
- Masks to be worn, except when eating or drinking
- Staff members to sanitise hands on entry and exit from the staffroom
- Continue to consider the risks of close contact with others, particularly if you are clinically extremely vulnerable or not yet fully vaccinated
- Responsibility of each staff member to clean frequent contact surfaces prior to and after use such as fridge door handles, kettle, microwave handle, coffee jar, keyboards etc.

#### **Classrooms**

- Rooms to be kept as well ventilated as possible (opening windows and propping open doors) or via ventilation units while rooms are occupied.
- Measures to be taken to maintain a comfortable temperature while still ventilating the room include:

- opening high level windows in colder weather in preference to low level to reduce draughts
- increasing the ventilation while spaces are unoccupied (for example, between classes, during garden times and lunch, when a room is unused) or open windows for short periods of time (5 minutes every 20 minutes during lessons)

**Bubbles:**

- In Step 4 the government no longer recommends that it is necessary to keep children in consistent year group bubbles. Assemblies in the hall, clubs, early and late room clubs for pupils will resume. If there is a local outbreak it has been advised bubbles may need to resume for a temporary period.

**Outbreak management plans and contingency measures:**

- If we have several confirmed cases within 14 days, the Head will call the dedicated advice service who will escalate the issue to the local health protection team where necessary and advise if any additional action is required, such as implementing elements of your outbreak management plan. You can reach them by calling the DfE helpline on 0800 046 8687 and selecting option 1 for advice on the action to take in response to a positive case/ cases.  
If the number of cases reaches 10% or above, the affected site/ bubble will go into remote learning.
- First week back from remote learning: - Amber measures put in place.  
All sites:  
All children and staff (all sites) LFT on Sunday 31st October  
All children and staff (all sites) LFT every evening until Sunday 7th November, when usual testing (twice a week for staff and Year 7 and 8 resumes) and fill in Google forms
- For the affected site:
- Bubble classes, no mixed activities:  
2 year group bubbles maximum
- For affected site, but should be considered for other sites for consistency and reassurance of staff  
No in person meetings  
No in person assemblies  
Face covering wherever possible  
Visitors allowed if they have a negative LFT test and wear a mask  
Cross site teaching allowed, with LFT tests, masks, social distancing  
Parents' Evenings will be remote and staff should be sent home at the end of the school day (to work from home)

Coffee Morning cancelled - CH letter  
Some clubs are cancelled, if there is a mixing of bubbles

**School Bus**

- If a student displays COVID-19 symptoms, or has a positive test while at their setting, they should not use the school bus and be collected by a member of their family or household.
- Face coverings will still be worn by Year 7 and 8 on the Abercorn school bus

**Parents and Carers visiting School**

- Parents may come inside School premises when their attendance is pre-arranged.
- At the start of the Autumn Term, we will restrict parent numbers to one person per visit.
- Parents should take a lateral flow test before they visit the School, unless they have received both doses of their vaccine. In this case, no lateral flow test is required.
- Parents must wear masks at all times.

**Birthday treats**

- Individual treats will be given out to each child at the end of the school day. They will not be consumed on site

Lower School

**Arrivals/ parents on site**

- PR and N parents to be able to take children to classroom during settling period (up to 22/09) N parents to use external stairs to arrive and leave. Parents onsite to wear a mask at all times
- R and Y1 to be collected from parents in car park each morning by the year group staff team

**Dismissal**

- Each class to have own dismissal time so dismissals are staggered and number of parents outside is limited
  - 11.45am Nursery Duckling am
  - 3.00pm PR Giraffe
  - 3.10 Rec Gruffalo
  - 3.20 Y1M
  - 3.25 Y1P
  - 3.30pm Nursery Duckling full time and pm

**Late Room**

- Late Room will be available until 4.30pm for PR, R and Y1 children in the dining room. Numbers will be monitored if uptake is high then PR will use a PR classroom for their late room session

**Outdoor Classroom**

- Children and adults to wash/sanitise hands before and after every outdoor session

**Toilets**

- Each year group to use assigned toilets unless there is an emergency or during late room times. Staff to encourage children to use toilets before any transitions

**Lunch times**

- Each year group has an assigned time in the dining room.
  - Nursery to eat in their classroom at 11.45am. Staff to deliver the food to the children
  - PR to eat in the dining room at 11.30am
  - R to eat in the dining room at 12.00 noon
  - Y1 to eat in the dining room at 12.30pm

**Yoga**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mats to be cleaned after each class</li> </ul> <p><b>Star of the week/ mascot</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The mascot can be sent home on Friday with the new Star of the Week. It should be returned to the class on Monday to be quarantined for the next child the following Friday. This will begin on Friday 17th September</li> </ul>
Middle School	<p><b>Late Room</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After School and Homework Club will be available until 4.30pm for PR, R and Y1 children in the languages and library room. Numbers will be monitored and if necessary 2 rooms may be used. Year groups will sit on designated Year Group tables</li> </ul> <p><b>Assembly</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assembly will resume in the hall with Year groups sat as spaced apart as is possible.</li> </ul> <p><b>Garden/Equipment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Play and Lunch times are still staggered. Pupils from different year groups may sensible use the bathrooms although each year group will have an allocated time before/after their breaks. Cleaning of equipment will still take place between garden times for each year group. Hand sanitising before and after play/lunch time should still take place. If sharing equipment between classes please wipe down with anti bacterial spray.</li> </ul> <p><b>Yoga</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mats to be cleaned after each lesson.</li> </ul> <p><b>Drop Off/Pick Up</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pupils coming into school should be staggered slightly if in different year groups. A One way system outside the school for parents/pupils will not be necessary. Bus children should be sat in Year groups where possible. Dismissal times are staggered.</li> </ul> <p><b>One Way Systems in School</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moving around school the one way systems in place when entering the Hall and Garden, will still be in place to avoid.</li> </ul>

Upper School	<p><b>Pupil Testing and PPE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Year 7 and 8 will be tested twice a week, including two tests in school when they return.</li><li>● Year 7 and 8 pupils will continue to wear face masks in corridors, communal areas, break rooms and buses.</li></ul> <p><b>Assembly</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● These will take place in the hall on benches that are separated</li></ul> <p><b>Drop off and collection</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● From the front of the building. Social distancing between classes when lining up and where possible to avoid unnecessary contact.</li></ul> <p><b>Pupil movement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Pupils to remain using the one way system to avoid congestion in tight spaces/ stairwells.</li><li>● Pupils are advised to hand sanitise on entry/exit to each classroom they use.</li><li>● If sharing equipment between classes please wipe down with anti bacterial spray.</li></ul>
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