

Adopted:	1 March 2022
School:	Northern Star Academies Trust

Living with COVID Measures and Guidance

Area	Measures
Infection prevention and control measures – pupils, staff and visitors	<p>Hand hygiene</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage regular hand hygiene, particularly when arriving at school, before meals and after using the bathroom. • Settings should display appropriate signage encouraging effective handwashing and provide supervision to younger pupils where required. • Hand sanitiser should be available for pupils, staff visitors. This will be replenished where necessary. <p>Respiratory hygiene</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emphasise ‘catch it, bin it, kill it’ approach. Provision of sufficient waste bins that are emptied regularly. • Disposable tissues are available for both staff and pupil use. <p>Cleaning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular cleaning schedules, with a particular focus on cleaning frequently touched areas e.g. light switches, handrails, door handles, taps, bathrooms, kitchens. <p>Ventilation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All spaces should be risk-assessed to ensure ventilation is adequate. Where schools have access to CO2 monitors, these should be used to identify areas of poor ventilation. • Air conditioning units should be set to ‘fresh air’ not ‘recirculating’. • Opening windows and doors (balanced with the need to maintain a comfortable temperature – if unable to have them open all the time, then open them, for example 10 minutes every hour). <p>Pupils with Complex Needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measures and controls for pupils with complex needs that may struggle to maintain as good respiratory and hand hygiene as their peers will be included in their main risk assessments. <p>Vaccination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools engage with their local immunisation providers to provide immunisation programmes on site, ensuring these are delivered in keeping with the school’s control measures.

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Face Coverings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not mandatory in educational settings but anyone (pupil or staff) who wishes to wear one can do so. • Face coverings should continue to be worn on shared transport (school buses, train etc.) in line with wider advice on face coverings in enclosed spaces • The Trust Outbreak Management Plan Public Health may advise settings experiencing outbreaks to use face coverings as part of their responsibilities in outbreak management.
Visits (Domestic, Residential and International)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covered as part of the standard risk assessment for the visit.
Managing transmission within the setting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anyone who has symptoms of COVID-19 should stay at home and take a PCR test. • If the test result (PCR or LFD) is positive, then pupils and staff should stay at home and follow government guidance on taking an LFD test from day 5 onwards. • Signage will be displayed to inform visitors not to enter the setting if they have COVID symptoms or have tested positive. • If a parent or carer insists on a pupil attending school, Headteachers can take the decision to refuse the pupil if, in their reasonable judgement, it is necessary to protect other pupils and staff from possible infection with COVID-19. • If anyone develops COVID symptoms whilst on-site, they will be isolated immediately / go home and encouraged to book a PCR test. If a pupil is awaiting collection, they should be left in a room on their own if possible and safe to do so. A window should be opened for fresh air ventilation if possible. If the pupil needs to go to the toilet while waiting to be collected, they should use a separate toilet if possible. The toilet should be cleaned and disinfected using standard cleaning products before being used by anyone else. Any rooms they use should be cleaned after they have left. PPE should be worn by staff caring for the pupil while they await collection if close contact is necessary. • If transmission escalates rapidly in line with the threshold definitions in the guidance, there is potentially severe operational disruption or there is evidence of severe disease or a cluster of cases where there are concerns about the health needs of vulnerable individuals the school will inform the public health team and the NSAT Central Team.
Pregnant Employees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A risk assessment must be carried out on pregnant employees. As a minimum, this should be revisited when a pregnant employee reaches 26 weeks. • Pregnant employees who are 26 weeks and beyond are recommended to continue to regular asymptomatic testing (twice weekly).
Close contacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can continue to come to school. • For individuals who live with someone who has tested positive there is an increased risk of infection. To minimise transmission: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • minimise contact with the person who has COVID-19 • work from home if possible

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • avoid contact with anyone who is at higher risk of becoming severely unwell if they are infected with COVID-19, especially those with a severely weakened immune system • limit close contact with other people outside the household, especially in crowded, enclosed or poorly ventilated spaces • wear a well-fitting face covering • If develop any COVID symptoms, order a PCR test, advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people while you are waiting for the test result
Outbreak Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If transmission escalates rapidly in line with the threshold definitions in the guidance, or there is evidence of severe disease or a cluster of cases where there are concerns about the health needs of vulnerable individuals the school will inform the public health team and the NSAT Central Team in line with the Outbreak Management Plan. • Work with public health teams to implement additional control measures where necessary.
Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General communications to parents setting out regarding measures.