

White Trees Covid-19 policy summary

1st November 2021

Risk Assessments

All staff have read and signed the site-specific Covid risk assessments - they understand that they are dynamic and working documents and must inform SLT of any changes, so the risk assessments can be updated and changed accordingly.

Rapid Testing

Government guidance can be found [here](#) on how/when to self-isolate.

All school staff will undergo rapid Covid-19 testing every Monday & Wednesday Morning, registering each test using the registration cards. These tests will be taken at 7:30am, informing the Headteacher only if their results come back positive.

If a test comes back positive then that person is to self-isolate for 10 days, informing the people who they have been in contact within the last 48 hours. Staff and pupils with a positive LFD test result should self-isolate in line with the [stay-at-home guidance for households](#) with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection. They will also need to get a free PCR test to check if they have COVID-19.

Whilst awaiting the PCR result, **the individual should continue to self-isolate.** This is a school policy as opposed to government policy to help prevent unnecessary spread of the Coronavirus.

If the PCR test is taken within 2 days of the positive lateral flow test, and is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD test and the pupil/staff member can return to school, as long as the individual does not have COVID-19 symptoms.

If more than one member of staff tests positive in one week, a decision will be made – in conjunction with the Directors - if that site can safely staff opening full time to all pupils. If it is not, then all pupils from that site will go to remote learning for that day with work being set online whilst SLT and Directors come up with a logistical plan for the next 10 days as to how the school can efficiently and safely open. If a member of staff or pupil has symptoms and is tested during the school week and tests positive, then that person is to self-isolate for 10 days, as per government guidance. **Education settings are now not responsible for contact tracing;** NHS Test and Trace have now undertaken this responsibility. It is a legal requirement to self-isolate if contacted by Test and Trace.

Within school setting there is now no need to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19 provided that:

- They have been double vaccinated
- They are younger than 18 years and 6 months
- They are taking part in a covid vaccination trial
- They cannot be vaccinated for medical reasons.

On returning to school after a half term the following is to undergo during the first week:

- **Staff are to take rapid tests Monday, Wednesday, and Friday morning.**
- **Day pupils – are to take rapid tests on the first day back, the third day back and the fifth (with parent/carers permission)**

Depending on the results will depend upon the course of action for the school.

Staff and pupils are to test regularly up until the end of December 2021, at which point it will be reviewed by central government and schools will be advised.

All staff are now fully vaccinated (ones that consented/chose to). Sites are no longer required to bubble, meaning that staff and pupils will mix as and where/when appropriate. We will now facilitate face to face meetings onsite, however, will not allow the external visitors to walk around the school site where the pupils are based. Visitors may access the office building only.

Cleaning

The school sites are cleaned each night, with staff using anti-bacterial wipes throughout the day – on door handles, banisters, chairs, desks etc – also using an anti-bacterial spray for rooms throughout the day. Staff also encourage pupils to wash their hands on a regular basis – masks are available for both staff and pupils on request.

Face Masks

Face masks are available for staff and pupils on site. Due to our pupils having Social, Emotional, Mental Health needs, some coupled with severe anxieties –we are not insisting that face masks are compulsory – as this could add to our pupils' inability to self-regulate. Face masks are now not compulsory by law but are recommended still in congested indoor areas and on public transport.

Laura Bull



Next review: by the end of December 2021