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Leominster Primary School

Outbreak management plan

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Introduction

This plan has been produced in line with [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 measures detailed in this plan in response to recommendations provided by Herefordshire Council, the director of public health, Public Health England's local 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)

Before any measures are reintroduced, we will weigh the benefits of controls against the potential negative impacts restrictions can have on children's wellbeing and education. Controls implemented will be the minimum required to protect staff and pupils, and will be lifted as soon as it is safe to do so.

The school has continued to implement certain control measures since we entered step 4 on the 19th July, which we will continue to implement until advised otherwise by central government and the local authority. These measures include:

- Regular hand washing and sanitising
- Enhanced cleaning schedules and cleaning touch points
- Ensuring good ventilation and utilising outdoor spaces

Testing

If recommended, we will increase the use of home testing by staff.

Face coverings

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

- Will be asked to keep on or put on a face covering when arriving at school and moving around indoors in places where social distancing is difficult to maintain, such as in communal areas
- Will be asked to wear a face covering in classrooms or during activities, where social distancing cannot be maintained.
- If recommended we would request parents and visitors to wear face coverings when arriving at the school, collecting or dropping off their children and when speaking to staff.

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Shielding

We will adhere to national guidance on the reintroduction of shielding, which would apply to those on the [shielded patient list](#). Where staff are advised to shield, we will implement home working or paid absence in line with government guidance. Where pupils are required to shield we will implement remote learning as detailed under attendance restrictions.

We will consult with staff before making any significant changes to their role to enable shielding.

Other measures

Depending on advice provided by Public Health or central government, we may be required to implement limits on:

- educational visits
- open days, transition days or taster sessions
- parents evening
- parents entering the school or talking face to face with staff
- live performances or events (theatre, music, sports etc.)
- external visitors
- shared resources

Other whole school measures that may be reintroduced include:

- Year group bubbles introduced initially, followed by class bubbles if required
- One-way system for parents on site plus closure of the car park off Hereford Road to enable a full-one way system.
- Staggered start/ finish times, staggered lunch and break sessions
- Increased lateral flow testing for staff who are identified as contacts of positive cases.
- Return to virtual meetings as much as possible (staff or governor meetings, assemblies, meetings of other professionals.
- Closing off Reception office
- Closing staff room and other communal areas (library)
- Limiting face to face contact
- Implementing social distancing measures
- Additional cleaning of equipment

Bubbles may be reintroduced to limit mixing and contacts across the school.

Attendance restrictions

Attendance restrictions will only be implemented as a last resort, and only in consultation with the Outbreak Control Hub or Public Health.

If attendance restrictions are reintroduced, we will again prioritise vulnerable children, and children of key workers.

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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 learning contingency.

The school will continue to provide meals or lunch parcels for pupils eligible for benefits-related free school meals while they are not attending school because of COVID-19 isolation guidelines. Vouchers will be distributed.

Wraparound care

We will limit access to before and after-school wraparound care during term time. After school sports activities would be closed.

We will communicate who will be eligible to attend once the restrictions are confirmed.

Safeguarding

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

We will aim to have a trained DSL or deputy DSL on site wherever possible.

If our DSL (or deputy) can't be on site, they can be contacted remotely by:

DSL: hlynch@lps.hereford.sch.uk

Deputy DSL: hsmith-hughes@lps.hereford.sch.uk

Deputy DSL: hrees@lps.hereford.sch.uk

On occasions where there is no DSL or deputy on site, an alternative senior leader will take responsibility for co-ordinating safeguarding on site.