

SAFETY RISK ASSESSMENT

Directorate: **Norden Community Primary School**

COVID 19 – September 2021 Opening. Written July 2021

Job role/s: Teachers / TA's / Support Staff / Admin/ Site staff

People who might be harmed: staff, pupils

Assessment date: **03/04/2022**

Are there any special considerations needed for new & expectant mothers or persons under 18, etc. Yes
Expectant mothers should work from home where possible.

Review date: When necessary

Names of all involved in assessment process: HT/SLT/GB/LA

Manager: R Bentham

Hazard / risk identified Task/ activity / process / stressor	Current measures in place to protect the health and safety of all – Staff, pupils, visitors and contractors	Improvement action needed
Identification and isolation of suspected and confirmed cases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff will be vigilant for symptoms – any member of staff showing any symptoms will be isolated in the small hall, escorted by a member of staff wearing PPE. They will be sent home and asked to get a PCR test. School can refuse a symptomatic child. Confirmed cases and their households will isolate for 10 days. Close contacts will be identified through NHS Test and Trace. School will decide if any vulnerable children or staff need to be informed of the positive case (not the identity) Awaiting further guidance on CEV staff. <p>Pupils/ Staff must stay at home if –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> They or someone in their household is symptomatic They have tested positive with an LFD test (Need to get a PCR test within 2 days) They have tested positive with a PCR test (Under 5s will only take a PCR if there is a positive case in their household). 	
Good ventilation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All windows throughout the building will be fully open from first thing in the morning until the end of the day when the community groups have left. Internal doors may be kept open, as long as they are not fire doors. 	

Regular cleaning of frequently touched surfaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site manager will ensure the cleaning schedule includes additional cleaning for the frequently touched areas eg. handrails, door handles, toilets etc. • Chlorine based cleaning products will be used to clean areas that have been occupied by a positive case. 	
Promoting vaccination of all vaccinated staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All staff have been encouraged to have their vaccination and information has been shared. • All staff have been asked about their status with regards to their vaccination status. • We have a list of staff who have not been vaccinated. 	
Face Coverings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The guidance says face coverings are not recommended but staff who feel more comfortable may wear a mask or a visor, either in the communal areas and/or the classrooms. • Parents/carers are no longer required to wear face coverings at the beginning and end of the days. 	
Testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All staff must continue to test during September when more guidance will be given. • LFD tests need to be carried out on a Sunday and Wednesday night and reported via the Google Form. • Any positive results must be reported immediately. • First LFD test for the new term will be Wednesday 1st September 2021. 	
Outbreak Management plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Contingency Plan has been updated and is now referred to as the Outbreak Management Plan, in line with the DfE requirements. • See Appendix A1. 	

Update 020921

170821 Updated DfE Schools Covid Operational Guidance.

Young people up to 18 years 6 months no longer required to isolate as a close contact.

NHS will operate Track and Trace and parents will identify close contacts, not school.

Individuals are not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with covid but they will be advised to get a PCR test. Attend school as normal whilst waiting for the results.

Need a Covid outbreak management plan (in place)

Follow 4 control measures –

Hygiene – continue with rigorous hand washing routines

Cleaning – continue with frequent cleaning of high traffic areas

Ventilation – all windows to be kept open at all times

Follow Public Health advice

August 2021 Contingency framework: education and childcare settings.

Actions suggested are listed in either the risk assessment or the outbreak management plan.

Consider extra actions if 5 pupils/staff or 10% test positive.

Employers should call the Self Isolation Service Hub (02037436715) as soon as a worker has tested positive.

Possible actions if rate rises – increased testing, re-introduction of face coverings.

Shielding can only be reintroduced by national government.

High quality remote education must be in place if needed.

If attendance restrictions are put into place, settings must continue to follow KCSIE, Working together to safeguard children and the EYFS framework.

Need to consider if educational visits are still appropriate and safe.

Consider outdoor learning, ways to improve ventilation and enhanced cleaning.

230821 LA/Public Health Guidance update email.

Schools Covid 19 inbox will continue as a single point of access for covid queries.

Schools to continue to report positive confirmations on a short report template (Appendix)

Updated GM Public Health guidance (Appendix)

Updated Safe travel back to school toolkit (Appendix) – information shared with parents/carers via Facebook/School Website/Parentmail.

260821 DfE Coronavirus daily update.

The UK Clinical Review Panel has recommended that all children under 18 should no longer be considered as CEV and will be removed from the shielded patient list.

300821 LA Covid 19 update.

Local PPE delivery information has been updated.

310821 DfE Coronavirus daily update.

School attendance is mandatory.

Parent's duty to ensure that their child attends regularly. School's responsibility to record attendance and follow up absence.

Updated guidance for attendance coding.

Schools to resume completing the educational setting status form.

Must provide remote education if the situation arises – same expectations as last academic year. (The Coronavirus Act 2020 Provision of Remote Education (England) Temporary Continuity (No.2) Direction.)

310821 DfE Preparing for Autumn Term webinar.

Confirmation of previous information.

Close contacts - No isolation whilst waiting for PCR test results if asymptomatic.

Carbon Dioxide monitors will be sent to schools from 6th September (Any time in the Autumn Term)

Ventilation is essential – all windows open.

Cleaning regimes should continue to be frequent and rigorous

Tuesday 5pm is the deadline for test orders for delivery the following week.

PE should be outdoors where possible.

Outdoor education is encouraged.

DfE covid helpline 0800 046 8687.

020921 LA Covid Webinar.

School has the right to refuse entry to a symptomatic child.

Warn and inform letter in GM guidance document should be sent when there is a positive case.

PCR tests are not suitable for under 5s but staff should be tested.

Attendance code X for PCR appointment and change to I if positive and self-isolating.

Keep logging LFT kits and results until told different.

If a staff member is identified as a close contact and is not double vaccinated then they will need to self-isolate and work from home.

Adjustments should be made for staff 28 weeks + pregnant – in place.

Limited singing and instrument playing inside.

Early Years back to normal with water, sand and play dough.

Books don't need to be quarantined.

Just reporting confirmed positive cases for staff and pupils.

Only advise a PCR test for the 3 main symptoms (not the extended list.) Normal advice not to attend school if unwell.

Do not use hand dryers.

Kitchen staff will continue to wear face coverings.

No face to face parent events in September then review.

Zoom assemblies for the whole school. Face to face unit assemblies.

PE outdoors where possible.

Bottom car park back in use for staff.

Letter sent to families about coming back to school.

Risk Assessment shared.

170921

Positive case in Nursery 130921 – Warn and Inform letter sent to all families. Double vaccinated staff went for a PCR test and all tested negative. One non-vaccinated member of staff is isolating for 10 days. Nursery has had a deep clean, has good ventilation and has regular cleaning of high traffic points. The children are also being encouraged to use good hand hygiene.

LA have produced updated risk assessments for cleaning and catering – see appendices.

081921

210921 Year 1 positive case

210921 Year 5 positive case

300921 Year 5 positive case

051021 Year 5 positive case

061021 Year 5 positive case

071021 Year 5 positive case

Warn and Inform letters sent to families.

081021 Member of staff tested positive.

081021 – Discussions with Public Health – following actions were agreed;

From Monday 11th October, Year 5 will –

Start at 8.45am.

Finish at 3.15pm.

Use the disabled toilet in Unit 3.

Stay in the classroom for their dinner.

Have their morning and lunchtime play on separate yards.

Not take part in unit assemblies or any other joint events.

All doors and windows will be open at all times in the Year 5 classrooms.

Regular handwashing will take place throughout the day.

Regular cleaning of surfaces in the classroom.

Staff working in Year 5 must wear a fluid resistant mask at all times.

Year 5 staff will use the PPA room as a staff room – all surfaces will be cleaned after each person's use.

Year 5 children will not attend Before and After School Club activities.

Year 5 staff will not work in Before and After School Club activities.

These measures will be reviewed on Friday 15th October or earlier if necessary.

191021

Year 5 additional protective measures lifted and the bubble opened 18/10/21 after discussions with Public Health.

131021 Updated DfE Contingency Framework has been released.

LA documents released – Appendices A13 – A17.

18/10/21 1 new case in Year 5

18/10/21 1 new case in Year 2

19/10/21 1 new case in Year 4

221021

20/10/21 1 new case in Reception

20/10/21 1 new staff case

22/10/21 Public Health updates provided for schools and families – Appendices 18 & 19.

Copy of the PH letter for parents and carers has been sent via Parentmail.

Rochdale is now at the Amber Level of the Greater Management Framework for cases and outbreak management.

We will now be introducing new measures from Monday 1st November –

TESTING

All students and staff members identified as a close contact within the setting or a household contact undertake the following:

- Take daily lateral flow tests (LFD test) before coming into school for 10 days (unless exempt – see exemptions below) We understand that this is a more difficult ask for primary schools and will require schools to work closely with parents to encourage this approach.
- Close contacts are also advised to take a PCR test between day 3 and 5 after being identified as a contact. In all cases, students should continue to attend school or college provided they have a negative LFD test result. Students or staff who develop symptoms of COVID-19 must still remain at home and get a PCR test as soon as possible, and isolate until the result is available.

Exemptions to Daily Contact Testing:

- Children 5 and under
- Children in Key Stage 1
- Any child, aged between 5 – 16, who has tested positive for COVID-19 via a PCR test within the past 90 days

FACE COVERINGS

We are requesting staff within primary schools to wear face coverings when moving around the school and in communal areas. Staff may want to consider the use of transparent face coverings whilst interacting with students in classrooms.

011121

- 21/10/21 1 new case in Year 2
- 23/10/21 1 new case in Year 6
- 25/10/21 1 new staff case
- 27/10/21 1 new staff case
- 01/11/21 Updated Warn and Inform letter has been shared

121121

- 09/11/21 1 new case in Nursery
- 10/11/21 1 new case in Year 1
- 10/11/21 2 new cases in Year 5

04/11/21

Attended Public Health webinar

As infection rates are still high, they are recommending no school trips or large gatherings eg. parents/carers coming in to school for events.

08/11/21

IPLCN have made the joint decision to postpone all pupil events and move all staff events back to virtual. This will be reviewed in January.

211121

- 15/11/21 1 new case in Reception
- 18/11/21 1 new staff case
- 20/11/21 2 new staff cases

Case information has been shared with Public Health, Warn and Inform letters have been sent to families and staff.

LA have sent minutes from the Public Health Webinars with FAQs

HSE have sent a briefing update

241121

- 23/11/21 2 new staff cases
- 23/11/21 1 new case in Reception
- 23/11/21 1 new case in Year 4
- 23/11/21 1 new case in Year 6
- 24/11/21 1 new staff case

Warn and inform letters have been sent to Years R,4,6

Due to the number of positive cases in Reception, we have put this year group back into a separate bubble.

This will be reviewed on 30/11/21

These measures are in place –

- Parents encouraged to carry out LFT tests on their children
- Staff to carry out daily LFT tests for 10 days and a PCR test on day 3-5
- Increased handwashing
- Children have staggered start and finish (8.45/3.15) to avoid rest of school
- Separate outdoor play areas
- Separate before and after school provision to be held in Reception classrooms
- Reception will not mix with Nursery – indoors or outdoors and will not share resources
- Children will keep their belongings in the classroom (coats/bags) and not mix with other year groups on the corridors
- Children to only use the toilets in the Reception unit
- Reception to eat their dinner in the classroom
- Children not to join unit assemblies or other joint events
- Staff will wear fluid resistant masks at all times
- Staff to have a separate staff room (Cookery Room) for all breaks, PPA and release time
- Reception children will only enter/exit the school via their classroom door – for class and before/after school club provision
- Deep clean of Reception unit
- Increased cleaning of high touch points
- Cleaning team are using chlorine releasing agents when cleaning
- Tables and chairs will be brought into the classrooms for lunch and these will be cleaned before and after use
- All windows will be open and doors, where it is safe to do so
- All toilets that do not have window, have a fresh air ventilation system

291121

DfE have released new guidance in light of the Omicron variant (Appendix 23)

- Reminder to staff about the importance of vaccination
- Face coverings in communal areas for staff
- Staff to continue to test twice weekly
- Any close contacts of Omicron variant will need to self-isolate for 10 days (Communication via NHS Track & Trace)
- A number of African nations have been added to the red list for travel. Those returning must isolate until they have a confirmed negative result.

LA have sent an updated Facilities Management risk assessment (Appendix 24)

An email has been sent to all families explaining that we will not be holding face to face Christmas events and recordings of the children's performances will be sent home.

031221

- 26/11/21 1 new case in Year 5
- 26/11/21 1 new case in Year 4
- 02/12/21 1 new case in Reception

01/12/21 Reception bubble opened up after discussions with Public Health.

CO2 monitors have been delivered and distributed around school. Instructions have been given.

LA update 031221 – new information regarding ventilation –

Public Health guidance

A number of queries have been received in relation to the current **cold temperatures and ventilation**. The following has been provided by the Lead Nurse - Infection Prevention & Control.

Using ventilation in the winter is more difficult because drawing in too much outdoor air – either through natural or mechanical ventilation – will cause thermal discomfort. Rather than having windows open all the time, Noakes suggests having them open slightly to maintain baseload, before opening them more fully to air a space. 'If you combine the airing period with when people leave a room, you can effectively flush the room and reset it to zero for the next occupancy period,' she says. 'That's one way that we could try to manage comfort and energy, and the need for ventilation.'

[Air of authority: interview with Professor Catherine Noakes – CIBSE Journal](#)

With this in mind, we will have all windows open half way when rooms are occupied and then fully open when they are empty. We will continue to check the impact of this by using the CO2 monitors. Doors do not need to be kept open.

101221

05/12/21 1 new case in Year 1

06/12/21 2 new cases in Year 6

07/12/21 1 new case in Year 6

08/12/21 1 new staff case

09/12/21 1 new case in Year 6

091221 New DfE guidance released in daily update

- School attendance remains mandatory
- BASC provision should continue
- Continue with face coverings in communal areas
- Therapists and wider services should continue to attend school
- CEV staff are not being advised to shield again
- Staff should continue to test twice a week
- All visitors should take an LFD test before entering the setting
- All close contacts of Omicron variant must self-isolate and book a PCR test
- Daily Contact testing will be introduced shortly as an alternative to self-isolation
- Contingency plans should be reviewed for January
- Staff should continue to test over the Christmas holidays
- Ofsted will not be carrying out inspections next week

Outbreak Management Plan updated – see appendix A25

091221 Public Health position on Omicron Variant for education settings in Rochdale released – see Appendix A26

- Reinforce to staff the importance of maintaining social distancing with other members of staff and with pupils wherever possible.
- Reduce the number of occasions where larger numbers of adults come into the building and where possible or advantageous to the setting/ families utilise remote connect methods.
- Utilise multiple entrances and exits to and from the setting to avoid large crowding

There are still a lot of unknowns about the new variant. With this high level of uncertainty, it would be right to take a cautious approach while prioritising the continuation of education. This includes reinforcing the need for everyone to get their vaccine or booster when offered, wear face coverings when necessary, and book a test if they develop symptoms. Staff and secondary learners should also make full use of regular LFT testing.

O91221 LA shared HSE update – Weekly Digest: your latest health and safety news and guidance (govdelivery.com)

Keep your workplace ventilated to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19

With winter weather making workers reluctant to keep windows and doors open, it is even more important to ensure your workplace is adequately ventilated. Good ventilation helps reduce the risk from aerosol transmission and prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Following useful feedback from businesses, HSE has updated its [website](#) on providing ventilation during the pandemic to make the advice easier to find and understand.

We have updated our pages to include simplified advice on [using CO2 monitors to identify poor ventilation](#). This covers the types of monitor to use, how to measure CO2 and deciding if a work space is suitable for monitors.

There is also a new [video on keeping vehicles ventilated](#), explaining how you can reduce the risk of transmitting the virus when using vehicles.

Our guidance on [balancing ventilation with keeping people warm at work](#) has simple steps you can take to make sure your workplace is adequately ventilated without being too cold.

These include:

- partially opening windows and doors as this can still provide adequate ventilation
- opening higher-level windows to create fewer draughts
- if the area is cold, relaxing dress codes so people can wear extra layers and warmer clothing

COVID-19: latest government guidance

In light of announcements made by the UK government this week, check the latest advice:

View the latest [GOV.UK guidance](#) on how to stay safe and help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

There is separate advice for [Scotland](#) and [Wales](#).

You can also find the latest updates on [COVID-19 variants identified in the UK - GOV.UK](#).

HSE's latest advice on [keeping workplaces safe](#) will help you to continue to work safely during the pandemic.

Due to the number of positive cases in Year 6, we have put this year group back into a separate bubble until the end of term. These measures are in place –

- Parents encouraged to carry out LFT tests on their children
- Staff to carry out daily LFT tests for 10 days and a PCR test on day 3-5
- Increased handwashing
- Children have staggered start and finish (8.45/3.15) to avoid rest of school
- Separate outdoor play areas
- Separate before and after school provision to be held in Year 6 classrooms
- Staff to have a separate staff room (Cookery Room) for all breaks, PPA and release time
- Year 6 children will only enter/exit the school via their classroom door – for class and before/after school club provision
- Deep clean of Year 6 classrooms
- Increased cleaning of high touch points
- Cleaning team are using chlorine releasing agents when cleaning
- Tables and chairs will be brought into the classrooms for lunch and these will be cleaned before and after use
- All windows will be open and doors, where it is safe to do so
- All toilets that do not have window, have a fresh air ventilation system

141221

10/12/21 1 new staff case
13/12/21 1 new case in Year 5
14/12/21 1 new staff case

131221 DfE daily Update

Daily testing for contacts of COVID-19

From Tuesday 14 December, a new national approach to daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 is being introduced (including until the end of this term). All adults who are fully vaccinated and children aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 – whether Omicron or not – should take a lateral flow device (LFD) test every day for 7 days instead of self-isolating. Daily testing by close contacts will help to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 will help protect education settings by reducing transmission and will also help keep pupils in face-to-face education.

Once notified by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact, all eligible staff, pupils and students should take an LFD each day for 7 days and report the results through the [Online Reporting System](#) and to their setting. If they test negative, they can continue to attend their education setting. Outside of the education setting, they should continue to follow the advice set out in the [Sunday 12 December press release](#). This approach should also be adopted over the winter break and on return in January.

If they test positive, they should self-isolate and [order a PCR test](#) to confirm the result. If the PCR is positive, they must self-isolate for 10 days. If the PCR test is negative, they no longer need to self-isolate but should continue to carry out the remainder of the daily tests, and only need to isolate if it is positive.

020122

5 staff tested positive over the holiday period.

DfE update –

- Face to face education is the priority
- Emphasis on encouraging whole community to get vaccinated (12years +)
- Ofsted inspectors who are current school leaders will not be asked to carry out inspections (temporary measure)
- Testing remains a priority – LFTs should still be carried out by those who have tested positive in the last 90 days
- Staff to continue to wear face coverings in communal areas (to be reviewed on 26th January when Plan B regulations are due to expire)
- Keep contingency plans under review
- A flexible approach to learning should be employed in the case of staff absence using all teaching and non-teaching staff available to ensure on-site provision where possible and remote learning when needed
- If there is a need for remote education, the preferred method is live streaming where possible and regular feedback and check ins with pupils
- Reminder about self-isolation for 7 days if there are negative LFTs on days 6 and 7 and no symptoms
- Staff should continue to test on days 8,9,10 and isolate again if any are positive then re-test 24 hours later
- See Guidance: Covid 19: Management of staff and exposed patients or residents in health and social care settings. Education staff have been asked to follow this (Appendix 28)
- Anyone who is unable to take LFTs will need to complete the full 10day isolation
- Fully vaccinated staff and children over 5 yrs identified as a close contact should LFT for 7 days and attend school as normal
- Children under 5 are not advised to take part in daily testing and are not required to self-isolate
- Vaccination guidance for at-risk 5 to 11 year olds is due to be released shortly
- Funding is available for air cleaning units for poorly ventilated spaces in schools if they meet the strict eligibility criteria
- The guidance and definitions for vulnerable children and children of critical workers is being updated

- Current vulnerable definition –

Those with a Social Worker

Those with an EHCP

A group of children considered locally, including by settings and LAs, to be 'otherwise vulnerable'

This list will now include –

Children known to Social Care Services in the past

Children whose home circumstances might be particularly challenging because of domestic abuse, parental offending, adult mental health issues, and drug and alcohol, addiction

- The Education Settings form will reopen on Tuesday 4th January.

030122

- Updated Vulnerable children/ Critical worker guidance has been issued (Appendix 29)
- LA have sent advice to share with parents/carers regarding testing (Appendix 30)

070122

- 04/01/22 1 case in YR, 3 cases in Year 4, 1 case in Year 5, 1 case in Year 6.
- 05/01/22 3 staff cases
- 06/01/22 2 cases in Year 1, 1 case in Year 2, 1 case in Year 4
- 06/01/22 DFE daily Update ***Confirmatory PCR tests following a positive lateral flow device (LFD) test result are to be temporarily suspended from Tuesday 11 January. This will mean that anyone who receives a positive LFD test result will be required to self-isolate immediately and will not be required to take a confirmatory PCR test.***

- 06/01/22 Public Health/LA webinar

- Existing GM Framework is still to be used as reference
- Updates will be sent next week
- Infection rates are expected to drop off in February as most people will have had Covid
- Omicron variant is viewed as milder as there are less people in ICU but the variant is still complex
- Pregnant staff – all should have a risk assessment. Not just those 28 weeks + (we have this in place already)
- Can ask staff for proof of exemption if they refuse to wear a face covering
- Anyone who has been self-isolating for 10 days can return to school even if they are still showing positive on an LFT
- Those testing on Days 6 and 7 who are negative should return to school on Day 7 as the test should be done first thing in the morning
- Confirmation that children with parents who have tested positive should be in school
- Confirmation that PCRs will be halted next week – but only for those who are asymptomatic
- LA will be sending out an updated Warn and Inform letter
- Confirmation that unvaccinated staff will still need to self-isolate for 10 days if they are a contact – even with a negative LFT
- Reminder that increased cleaning regimes should continue

100122

LA have issued an up to date Warn and Inform Letter. (Appendix 31)

110122

DfE Daily Update - Confirmatory PCR testing following a positive result on a lateral flow device (LFD) will be temporarily suspended from today, Tuesday 11 January. This means that for all education and childcare settings, staff and students who have tested (either at home or through ATS) and reported a positive LFD result will no longer be advised to get a confirmatory PCR test.

This change is informed by public health advice. With high COVID-19 rates, the risk of a positive LFD result being false is very small. We therefore don't need to ask people to do a confirmatory PCR unless they:

- › have symptoms (in which case they need to follow the stay at home guidance, self-isolate and order a PCR test)
- › wish to claim the Test and Trace Support Payment
- › have been advised to take a PCR test because they are in a clinically vulnerable group
- › have been advised to do so as part of a research or surveillance programme
 - In view of the guidance above, the LA have updated the Warn and Inform Letter (Appendix32)
 - 10/01/22 1 staff case
 - 11/01/22 2 cases in Year 5 and 1 staff case

170122

- Updated guidance from LA included –

NGA advice that all GB meetings and visits should be virtual where possible. Rochdale Public Health agree with this.

Recording pupil non-attendance related to coronavirus

In light of recent guidance amendments, Local Authorities across Greater Manchester have raised questions with the DfE Policy Department in relation to coding for positive LFT's that pupils have taken either in school or at home. Please see the response from the Policy Department: We have advised schools throughout the pandemic that where a pupil tests positive for COVID-19 they should be recorded as ill (Code I) in the register. The register is a legal record of why a pupil is not physically in school at any given time. As usual schools must record absence in the register using the most appropriate code in line with the Pupil Registration Regulations. Pupils presenting with a positive LFD test result should self-isolate in line with guidance and schools should record the absence using code I02: Illness confirmed case of coronavirus (COVID-19). This code is used for pupils who are absent because they have tested positive for Covid-19 and to reflect the fact that the pupil cannot attend because they have an infectious illness. This is regardless of whether they are well enough to engage in remote education or not.

- **DfE daily update 140122 - Changes to the self-isolation period for those who test positive for COVID-19**

From Monday 17 January, people who are self-isolating with COVID-19 will have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with a lateral flow device (LFD) test on both day 5 and day 6 and they do not have a temperature. For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can return to their education or childcare setting immediately on day 6.

The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period, and the second must be taken the following day. All test results should be [reported to NHS Test and Trace](#).

If the result of either of their tests is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest.

Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests or anyone who continues to have a temperature will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.

Further [information on self-isolation for those with COVID-19](#) is available.

- New LA reporting spreadsheet to replace the individual sheets (Appendix 33)

180122

- 17/01/22 1 case in Nursery, 2 cases in Year 4, 1 case in Year 6.
- 18/01/22 1 case in Nursery, 1 case in Year 1, 1 case in Year 3, 1 case in Year 6.

- New LA schools Pack sent (Appendix 34)
- Updated Warn and Inform letter sent (Appendix 35)

190122

- 19/01/22 1 case in Year 3.
- LA have asked schools to notify the Schools Covid Team if staff absences result in the inability to open/open safely, so that this can be approved and the DfE can be notified.
- GM Outbreak Management Framework – reissued (Appendix 36)
- GM Case Management Guidance –reissued (Appendix 37)
- Pregnancy Briefing Note issued 170122 (Appendix 38)

210122

DfE daily update 190122 *From Thursday 20 January, face coverings are no longer recommended in classrooms and teaching spaces for staff, and pupils and students in year 7 and above. They were introduced in classrooms at the start of the spring term as a temporary measure. From Thursday 27 January, face coverings are no longer recommended in communal areas for staff, and pupils and students in year 7 and above. This decision comes in response to national infection data showing the prevalence of COVID-19 to be on a downward trajectory. Whilst there are some groups where cases are likely to continue rising, it is likely that the Omicron wave has now peaked nationally. There remains significant pressure on the NHS but hospital admissions have stabilised, and the number of patients in Intensive Care Units (ICU) remain low and are falling. This means it is right we remove the most stringent restrictions around wearing face coverings from education, but the virus is still with us, and continuing with proportionate protective measures remains vital to protect education. Local directors of public health are able to recommend the use of face coverings in communal areas, across their area only, where DfE and public health experts judge the measure to be proportionate due to specific health concerns. This is a temporary measure. Directors of public health will continue to advise individual settings experiencing outbreaks. Any local introduction of face coverings will be subject to routine review and removed at the earliest opportunity.*

Given the rates of infection are still high in Rochdale and we have had 12 cases this week, we would encourage staff to continue to wear face coverings in communal areas. This is not statutory, but a measure that will continue to protect everyone in our school community.

20/01/22 1 case in Y1, 1 case in Y4

21/01/22 1 case in Y2, 1 case in Y3

200122 Updated Schools Covid 19 operation guidance was released (Appendix 39)

- Under 5s – children under 5 who are identified as close contacts are exempt from self-isolation and do not need to take part in daily testing. They are advised to get a PCR if the positive case is in their household.
- Face coverings –no longer advised for pupils, staff and visitors in classrooms from 20th January and in communal areas from 27th January.
- Workforce – the government is no longer advising people to work from home if they can.

LA have produced a DBS Covid Risk Assessment to support with the high level of workforce absence at present (Appendix 40)

220222

LA has sent an updated Catering Risk Assessment (Appendix 41)

LA has sent an updated Cleaning Risk Assessment (Appendix 42)

280122

24/01/22 1 Year 1 case, 2 Year 2 cases, 2 staff cases

25/01/22 1 Year 4 case

27/01/22 1 staff case

28/01/22 1 Year 3 case

LA have sent an update on face coverings from Public Health (Appendix 43)

070322

Guidance sent from LA - letter for parents about events, parent advice regarding symptoms and information for pregnant staff.

Appendices 44,45,46.

220322

140322 1 case in Year 4. 1 case in Reception.

210322 1 case in Year 2. 2 cases in Year 5.

Email sent to parents to update them on the new cases and encourage them to test their child when they are poorly and the information about vaccinations for children ages 5-11 years.

Appendix 47 Public Health letter sent to all parents

250322

We now have 14 cases in school – 6 of which are in Year 5. Year 5 will now have increased cleaning in the classrooms and the children will be outdoors as much as possible. All areas will remain well ventilated. Staff will remind children regularly about good hygiene.

290322

We now have 27 cases in school. Year 5 and Year 2 have a number of cases so both these year groups are going into bubbles.

The following protective measures are in place-

Come into school at 8.40am (Year 2 – front path) (Year 5 – cookery room)

Leave school at 3.10pm – same entrances

Have their lunch in their classrooms – grab bags from the school kitchen

Have a separate outdoor area to play in at playtime and lunchtime – using bottom car park

Use separate toilets where possible – Disabled toilets in each unit

Access separate Busy Bees provision – Y5 in the classroom and Y2 in the ICT suite

Keep coats in classrooms to avoid mixing with other children in cloakrooms

Extra cleans at playtime and lunchtime in Y2 and Y5 classrooms

Ensure there is good ventilation and classes go outdoors as much as possible

Regular reminders about good hygiene

Separate staff room area for Y2 and Y5 staff

Review with Public Health in 1 week

310322 DfE guidance from 1st April

- adults with the symptoms of a respiratory infection, and who have a high temperature or feel unwell, should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature
- children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend
- adults with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days, which is when they are most infectious. For children and young people aged 18 and under, the advice will be 3 days

The population now has much stronger protection against COVID-19 than at any other point in the pandemic. This means we can begin to manage the virus like other respiratory infections, thanks to the success of the vaccination programme and access to antivirals, alongside natural immunity and increased scientific and public understanding about how to manage risk.

For education and childcare settings from Friday 1 April:

- regular asymptomatic testing is no longer recommended in any education or childcare setting, including in SEND, alternative provision and children's social care settings. Therefore, settings will no longer be able to order test kits
- residential SEND settings may be advised by their local health protection team to re-introduce some time-limited asymptomatic testing. This would be an exceptional measure, for targeted groups of staff and pupils or students (secondary age or above) in the event of a possible COVID-19 outbreak. These settings are scheduled to receive an automatic delivery of contingency supply test kits during the week commencing Monday 28 March
- the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) will publish new guidance. Most of the specific COVID-19 guidance for education and childcare settings will be withdrawn from GOV.UK on Friday 1 April. The operational guidance on the [testing in education settings document sharing platform](#) will also be removed on the same day

030422

The Living with covid plan and the Next steps for living with covid plan have been released.

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2022/03/30/living-with-covid-the-end-of-routine-testing-in-schools-colleges-and-childcare-settings/>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-sets-out-next-steps-for-living-with-covid>

Summary –

No routine testing

Encourage staff and pupils to get vaccinated

Children with a positive covid result should isolate for 3 days

Adults with a positive covid result should isolate for 5 days

Schools should continue with baseline infection prevention and control measures – support vaccinations, good ventilation, reinforce good hygiene

5-11 year olds will be offered vaccinations

Free covid tests will still be available for specific vulnerable groups

Plans are in place for rapid testing if a new health threat emerges

People with symptoms of a respiratory infection and a high temperature, or who feel unwell, should stay at home until they feel well and no longer have a high temperature.

Children who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with others. They can go back to school when they no longer have a high temperature and are well enough to attend.

This information has been shared with our families.

We currently have 30 cases in school.

Years 2 and 5 are in bubbles until Tuesday when this will be reviewed with Public Health.

Pregnant staff risk assessments have been updated.

Appendices

- A1 Outbreak Management Plan
- A2 DfE School's Operational Guidance
- A3 DfE Contingency Framework
- A4 GM Covid Case Management Pack
- A5 Setting's report template for LA
- A6 Travel Toolkit
- A7 DfE Return to Work Pack for Schools
- A8 Return to Schools Leaflet for Families
- A9 LA Catering risk assessment – updated
- A10 LA Cleaning risk assessment – updated
- A11 Covid symptom list to support LA risk assessments
- A12 DfE updated Contingency Framework
- A13 UK Health Security Agency document
- A14 GM outbreak management framework
- A15 Covid Fact sheet
- A16 Fire doors and ventilation directive
- A17 Corporate services covid briefing
- A18 Public Health briefing for HTs
- A19 Public Health letter for parents and carers
- A20 Nov 21 Warn and Inform letter
- A21 LA minutes from Public Health webinars
- A22 HSE briefing update
- A23 DfE Schools Guidance – updated 291121
- A24 LA updated Facilities Management Risk Assessment
- A25 Updated Outbreak Management Plan
- A26 Public Health Update
- A27 HSE Update
- A28 HSA Covid 19 guidance: management of staff and exposed patients or residents in health and social care settings
- A29 Vulnerable children updated guidance
- A30 LA guidance for parents/carers
- A31 Updated Warn and Inform Letter
- A32 Updated Warn and Inform Letter
- A33 LA Covid reporting spreadsheet
- A34 LA Schools Covid Pack
- A35 Updated Warn and Inform letter
- A36 GM Outbreak Management Framework
- A37 GM Case Management Guidance
- A38 Pregnancy Briefing Note
- A39 Schools Covid 19 operational guidance
- A40 DBS covid risk assessment

A41 LA catering risk assessment
A42 LA cleaning risk assessment
A43 Public Health face covering update
A44 Public Health Events letter for families
A45 Public Health update for families
A46 LA update regarding pregnant staff
A47 PH update for families