



**BALFOUR**  
JUNIOR SCHOOL

## **Outbreak Management Plan**

**January 2022**

## Introduction

The Government has made it a National priority that education and childcare settings should continue to operate as normally as possible during the COVID-19 pandemic.

This plan outlines the procedures and steps that Balfour Junior School will implement based on the principles set out in the [Contingency Framework](#).

Measures affecting education may be necessary in some circumstances, for example:

- To help manage a COVID-19 outbreak within a setting
- If there is extremely high prevalence of COVID-19 in the community and other measures have failed to reduce transmission
- As part of a package of measures responding to a Variant of Concern (VoC)

In these cases, the Guidance also states that councils, directors of public health and Public Health England health protection teams can recommend certain measures for individual schools or clusters of settings.

This plan should be read alongside the latest guidance for education settings operating during COVID (These documents change frequently so the reader should check they have the most up to date guidance).

- actions for schools during the COVID-19 outbreak  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak>

## **When settings should consider extra action**

The Operational Guidance sets out the measures that all education settings should have in place to manage transmission of COVID-19 day to day. For most settings it will make sense to think about taking extra action if the number of positive cases substantially increases. This is because it could indicate transmission is happening in the setting.

The thresholds, detailed below, can be used by schools as an indication for when to seek public health advice if they are concerned.

For most education and childcare settings, whichever of these thresholds is reached first:

- 5 pupils or staff, who are likely to have mixed closely, test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period;

or

- 10% of pupils or staff who are likely to have mixed closely test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period

## **Additional measures in case of an outbreak**

### **Shielding**

We will adhere to national guidance on the reintroduction of shielding, which would apply to those on the [shielded patient list \(SPL\)](#).

We will speak to individuals required to shield about additional protective measures in school or arrangements for home working or learning.

### **Other measures**

If recommended, we will limit:

- Residential educational visits
- Open days
- Transition or taster days
- Parents coming into school
- Live performances

If recommended, we will reintroduce:

- Bubbles, to reduce mixing between groups

## **Attendance restrictions**

Attendance restrictions will only be recommended as a last resort. If recommended, we will implement the measures in this section.

## **Eligibility to remain in school**

If further restrictions are recommended, we will stay open for:

- Vulnerable pupils (see [here](#) for definition of vulnerable)
- Children of critical workers

## **Attendance of vulnerable pupils**

Where vulnerable pupils are absent, the school will:

- Follow up with a parent or carer, working other agencies to establish the reasons for absence and discuss concerns.
- Encourage the child to attend educational provision and discuss benefits with parents or carers.
- Focus discussions on the welfare of the child, ensuring that they can access appropriate education and support whilst they are at home.

If a vulnerable child is not attending school and is not engaging with remote learning then regularly welfare calls will be made by the class teacher, SLT or pastoral team

## **Education and support for pupils at home**

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 plan which can be found on the school's website

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.

## **Safeguarding**

We will review our child protection policy to make sure it reflects the local restrictions and remains effective. A designated safeguarding lead (DSL) or deputy DSL will be onsite during the school day to ensure that any safeguarding concerns are addressed. In the extremely unlikely event that all DSLs or deputies are not in school, then the Head teacher (DSL) Deputy head teacher (Deputy DSLs) will be available on the phone. All staff have these numbers and are aware of the procedures to report concerns.