WASPS Out of School Club

*A warm and safe environment where children aged 3 to 13 learn, grow and have fun!*

**Outbreak Management Plan**

**What is an outbreak?**

For most education and childcare settings an outbreak is likely to be identified, whichever one of these thresholds is reached first:

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

Or

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

Or

For special schools, residential settings, and settings that operate with 20 or fewer children, pupils, students and staff at any one time:

**2 children, pupils, students and staff, who are likely to have mixed closely, test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period\***

*\*Single confirmed cases in these settings can be actioned as a priority to prevent an outbreak as these settings are considered higher risk.*

**Settings may also contact the LA for advice and support if they have concerns about the operational running of the setting or the impact on education and learning or impact on vulnerable pupils as a result of case numbers**

NB- The LA will also be monitoring cases in settings through the surveillance data and will contact the setting if information suggests there is an outbreak.

The template below is a guide on what measures you **may** be able to introduce if there is an outbreak in your setting and not an exhaustive list.

**Supplementary Risk assessment - additional controls in the event of an Outbreak**

Review your existing risk assessment controls for effectiveness (E.g. hand hygiene, cleaning regimes and ventilation) ensure these are robust, reinforced to staff and students and enhanced if / where required.

**Additional control measures**

In the event of an outbreak the settings COVID-19 risk assessment will be reviewed and updated. There may be a need to introduce additional measures to mitigate the risk of transmission, examples of these are detailed below and should be introduced as appropriate based on the circumstances of the outbreak. ***Any restrictions on attendance would only be considered in extreme circumstances and as a last resort.***

| **Additional Outbreak controls** | **Action by who?** | **Action by when?** | **Done** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Face Coverings**  Those wearing face coverings should clean hands before and after touching – including to remove or put them on – and store them in individual, sealable plastic bags between use. | All Staff during outbreak  All Visitors and staff | Immediate effect  Autumn 2021 and ongoing |  |
| **Enhanced cleaning**  Settings cleaning schedule reviewed and enhanced during the duration of the outbreak. In-particular for rooms used by multiple groups / classes. |  | Autumn 2021-January 2022 and review |  |
| **Limit the use of some shared areas** for example   * Designated toilets for year groups |  | When outbreak arises |  |
| Resources not to be shared between groups/bubbles of children. If resources are unable to be cleaned at the end of each session then they will be put away for 72 hours between uses. |  | When outbreak arises |  |
| **Limiting activities**  Group activities limited to bubbles/small groups only. Contact sport to be stopped until outbreak over. | during outbreak | When outbreak arises |  |
| **Visitors / parental** **attendance**  Access to school / setting will be limited, parents/ carers and visitors to attend by appointment only. Wherever possible will take place via telephone or other virtual methods.  Any additional controls required of visitors in response to an outbreak will be communicated to them. | All Visitors to the School | Within immediate effect of outbreak |  |
| **Re-introduction of bubbles** (detail how this would be achieved, nature and size of bubbles to be as small as practicable to reduce transmission risk).Groups to remain clear and consistent and separated from other groups.  The reintroduction of bubbles for a temporary period, may be required to reduce mixing between groups. In line with the DfE guidance any decision to recommend the reintroduction of ‘bubbles’ would not be taken lightly and would need to take account of the detrimental impact they can have on the delivery of care.  Should a move to bubbles be made then enhanced cleaning and/or quarantining of shared equipment would be required alongside the introduction of bubbles. | All staff and children revert back to ‘Bubble System’ | From immediate effect of outbreak |  |
| **Testing**  **Home testing** Continue to provide LFD testing kits to staff and students and encourage 2x week testing. | All Staff to undertake LFT twice a week. | From September 2021 and ongoing |  |

**Restrictions on attendance**

Restrictions on attendance would only be considered in extreme circumstances and as a last resort.

Additional measures would be implemented based on advice from the Local Authority, Director of Public Health (DsPH), Public Health England or Central Government.

If advised to limit attendance due to COVID cases the school’s remote learning plans will be reintroduced.

**Tracing Close Contacts and Self-Isolation**

Close contacts in early years settings are now being identified by NHS Test and Trace and education and childcare settings are not expected to undertake contact tracing. As with positive cases in any other setting, NHS Test and Trace will work with the positive case to identify close contacts.

Contacts from a setting will only be traced by NHS Test and Trace where the positive case and/or their parent or carer specifically identifies the individual as being a close contact. This is likely to be a small number of individuals who would be most at risk of contracting COVID-19 due to the nature of the close contact. You may be contacted in exceptional cases to help with identifying close contacts, as currently happens in managing other infectious diseases.

All individuals who have been identified as a close contact of a suspected or confirmed case of the Omicron variant of COVID-19, irrespective of vaccination status and age, will be contacted directed and required to self-isolate immediately and will be asked to book a PCR test. They will be informed by the local health protection team or NHS Test and Trace if they fall into this category.

Further actions for education and childcare settings may be advised by a local Incident Management Team (IMT) investigating a confirmed or suspected case of the Omicron variant of COVID-19.

For everyone else, self-isolation rules are unchanged. Individuals are not required to selfisolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 who is not a suspected or confirmed case of the Omicron variant, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19 who is not a suspected or confirmed case of the Omicron variant, and any of the following apply:

• they are fully vaccinated.

• they are below the age of 18 years 6 months

• they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial

• they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Instead, they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so.

Children who are aged under 5 years old who are identified as close contacts will only be advised to take a PCR test if the positive case is in their own household.

Staff who do not need to self-isolate and children who usually attend the setting and have been identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19 who is not a suspected or confirmed case of the Omicron variant, should continue to attend the setting as normal.

18-year-olds will be treated in the same way as children until 6 months after their 18th birthday, to allow them the opportunity to get fully vaccinated. At which point, they will be subject to the same rules as adults and so if they choose not to get vaccinated, they will need to self-isolate if identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19 that has not been identified as the Omicron variant.

Settings will continue to have a role in working with health protection teams in the case of a local outbreak. If there is a substantial increase in the number of positive cases in a setting (see local outbreaks section for more information) or if central government offers the area an enhanced response package, a director of public health might advise a setting to temporarily reintroduce some control measures.