



**Mulberry Stepney Green Maths, Science and Computing College.**

**COVID Risk Management (Sept 2021. Updates December 2021)**

**Advice about self – isolation for staff and students.**

When should an individual self – isolate? Staff and students.	 NO	Students under 18 and 6 months or double-vaccinated adults i.e. staff <b>do not</b> need to self-isolate if a member of their household or a contact, has COVID – ( <i>unless OMICRON* is identified</i> ) Instead, they will need to book a PCR test and continue coming to school so long as they have no symptoms and the test result is negative.
	 YES	If a student or staff member develops COVID symptoms at home, they should stay at home and should book a PCR test, NOT a Lateral Flow test. If a student or staff member develops COVID symptoms at school, they will be sent home. A PCR test must be booked. If negative the student or staff member must return to school as long as they are well enough.  If positive the student or staff member must self - isolate for 10 days from the date of the test and then return to school as long as they are fit and well. The rest of the household does not need to self-isolate if they are under 18 and 6 months or fully vaccinated – but instead should book a PCR test. ( <i>unless OMICRON* is identified</i> )

\*Contacts of people who have been identified as a suspected or confirmed case of the Omicron variant of COVID-19 must stay at home and self-isolate for 10 days from the point of contact even if they are fully vaccinated or aged under 18 years and 6 months. Contacts are legally required to self-isolate, they must complete their full isolation period even if they receive a negative test result during this period. Contacts will be contacted by Track and Trace.

All who have tested positive for COVID must self-isolate from date of test – even if they have no symptoms.

More detailed information can be found by following the link below.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

A detailed COVID Risk Management document is available on the school website.

## Contingency Plan

All schools are required to have a contingency plan (sometimes called outbreak management plan) describing what to do if children, pupils, students or staff test positive for COVID-19, or how they would operate if they were advised to reintroduce any measures to help break chains of transmission. The school will inform parents of any changes to COVID measures should these be needed.

### Responding to Community Risk

Community Covid Risk	Description	Actions
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Low Community Transmission. No school cases</b></p>	<p>There have been no cases of COVID within school for 10 school days. Cases of COVID locally are low and/ or stable. Hospitalisation/ Deaths due to COVID nationally are low.</p>	<p>No COVID measures are necessary beyond: Reminding children of good hand-hygiene. Ensuring good ventilation -encouraged where practical. Ensuring Children and Staff stay at home if they have COVID Symptoms (and to book a PCR test). Staff will be encouraged to continue to test themselves using Lateral flow tests twice weekly.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Rapidly Rising Community Transmission. Or identified Variant of Concern</b></p>	<p>No current COVID cases have been recorded at school, but:  Cases of COVID are rising rapidly in the community causing disruption to other local schools.  Tower Hamlets Public Health or Public Health England issue warnings of expected local or national infection wave of variant of concern.</p>	<p>Ventilation of classrooms increased &amp; handwashing supervised. Large indoor public performance audience numbers reduced or postponed Staff-room capacity reduced – Adjustments made to meeting spaces. Assemblies replaced with virtual assemblies. Parental attendance to school restricted or postponed. Clinically Vulnerable staff meet with HT to review their individual risk assessment &amp; discuss additional protection (e.g. reduction in movement between classes/ groups). Clinically vulnerable students to be monitored by Heads of Year, Tutors and SENDco. <b>All staff and students to wear face masks within school grounds unless exempt.</b></p>

## Responding to in school risk

Number of cases:	Description	Actions
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Low risk</b></p> <p><b>A single child or staff member tests Positive</b></p>	<p>A single staff member tests positive for COVID. Single students test positive for COVID</p> <p>There are fewer than 5 cases in any year group.</p>	<p>The student or staff member self-isolates for 10 days. Remote learning will be provided if the student is well enough to complete it as per school policy. Staff can work remotely if they are well enough.</p> <p>The parents of the student or the staff member are contacted directly by NHS Track and Trace to establish likely contacts.</p> <p>Likely contacts will be contacted by NHS Track &amp; Trace and advised to book a PCR Test.</p> <p>Contacts of students or staff who have tested positive do not need to self-isolate whilst they wait for the result of the PCR test unless they have COVID symptoms. In the case of a positive test result for OMICRON – then contacts must self - isolate</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Medium risk</b></p> <p><b>5 students or staff within a year group test positive within 10 days of each other.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OR</b></p> <p><b>3 students or staff connected to a single class test positive within 10 days of each other.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OR</b></p> <p><b>A variant of concern is identified</b></p>	<p>There have been 5 cases of COVID across a year group (or 3 in one class) within 10 days which could mean that COVID is spreading within that group of students.</p> <p>A variant of concern is identified by Public Health, mitigating factors are required to limit the spread</p>	<p>As above for each positive case.</p> <p>The school will discuss the outbreak with Tower Hamlets Public Health or follow government advice and agree strengthening protective measures for 10 school days or within the timescale as set out by Public Health England, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adapting, limiting or postponing trips, open days and performances</li> <li>postponing parental attendance</li> <li>Reverting to online assemblies only</li> <li>Increasing use of face coverings</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>High Risk</b></p> <p><b>COVID cases continue to increase rapidly within a 10-day period.</b></p>	<p>Despite the measures indicated above, COVID cases within the school continue to rise within a 10 day period with multiple classes and staff affected, suggesting that COVID is spreading widely throughout the school.</p>	<p>An Incident Management Team meeting held between the school, the trust and Tower Hamlets Public Health to agree further measures, for a further 10 school days or time scale as agreed with Public Health, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Re-introducing class bubbles</li> <li>Possibility of re- introducing weekly supervised lateral flow tests</li> <li>Limiting all non-essential visitors to school</li> <li>Mask wearing</li> <li>Postponing all non-essential events.</li> <li>Re-introducing remote learning for individual classes for 10 school days considered, as per school policy.</li> </ul> <p><b>Limiting attendance must be seen as last resort</b></p>