



THE PERSE SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE

Covid-19 Outbreak Management Plan

The Perse will follow the Department for Education's [contingency framework](#) in the event of an outbreak. Local authorities, Directors of Public Health and Health Protection Teams are responsible for managing localised outbreaks. In the event of an outbreak the Senior Deputy Head and Deputy Domestic Bursar, in consultation with the Head, Bursar, Head of the Junior Division and Pelican Head, will liaise with the agencies responsible for managing outbreaks and agree an appropriate Perse response. Any changes to the school's Covid control measures will be communicated as soon as possible to pupils, parents and staff.

The school will keep any additional control measures to the minimum numbers of people possible and for the shortest amount of time possible. All additional measures will be kept under regular review and be lifted as soon as the evidence supports doing so.

In line with DfE guidance, the school will consider extra action when:

- there are a higher than previously experienced and/or rapidly increasing number of staff or student absences due to COVID-19 infection
- there is evidence of severe disease due to COVID-19, for example if a pupil, student, child or staff member is admitted to hospital due to COVID-19

Examples where pupils or staff may have 'mixed closely' include:

For early years:

- a nursery class
- a friendship group who often play together
- staff and children taking part in the same activity session together

For schools:

- a form group or subject class
- a friendship group mixing at break times
- a sports team
- a group in an after-school activity

Pupils and staff confirmed and suspected cases are reported to the Senior Deputy Head and Deputy Domestic Bursar who are responsible monitoring emerging patterns of infection, and for reporting all confirmed cases and emerging patterns to the Head, Bursar, Head of the Junior Division and Pelican Head. The Head is responsible for updating the Governing Board as appropriate.

At the point of reaching a threshold, the school will review and reinforce the testing, hygiene and ventilation measures already in place. The school will seek additional public health advice as appropriate either by phoning the DfE helpline or in line with other local arrangements.

In conjunction with the local authority, local health protection team and/or Director of Public Health the school may:

- strengthen communications to strongly encourage pupils aged 11 and over to undertake and report twice weekly at home lateral flow tests
- reintroduce face coverings (for those not exempt) in some or all areas for staff and pupils aged 11 and over
- reintroduce on-site or home testing

and limit:

- residential educational visits
- open days
- transition or taster days
- parental attendance in school
- live performances in school

In addition to the measures above the school may at its discretion:

- Consider whether any additional activities can take place outside
- Implement one-off enhanced cleaning focussing on touch points and any shared equipment
- Introduce short-term capacity limits for social spaces e.g. Sixth Form Centre
- Move all assemblies and/or staff meetings online
- Pause inter-school sports fixtures which require transportation or against schools who are managing an outbreak
- Avoid fixtures or day trips to areas with a high number of cases
- Consider temporarily pausing higher risk indoor activities – for example those involving higher density of participants and/or increased exhalation such as large choirs and orchestra rehearsals where social distancing isn't possible, or cardio fitness training
- Reduce pupil numbers on site by adjusting Sixth Form attendance requirements e.g. only attending school for lessons
- Pause external lets

Attendance restrictions will only ever be considered as a short-term measure and as a last resort:

- for individual settings, on public health advice in extreme cases of operational disruption to staffing or where other recommended measures have not mitigated against risks to face-to-face education
- across an area, on government advice in order to suppress or manage a dangerous variant and to prevent unsustainable pressure on the NHS

In all circumstances, priority will continue to be given to vulnerable children and young people and children of critical workers so they can attend school in person and follow their usual timetables. In the event of restricted attendance, quality remote learning provision will be provided and the school will ensure that a trained DSL (or deputy) is available on site.

Updated February 2022