

# Belleville Primary School

## Covid Measures and Plan Summary - September 2021

### When should my child come to school?

 YES	<p><b>All children MUST attend school unless they are ill, showing Covid symptoms or completing quarantine after travelling abroad from certain countries.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• From 16<sup>th</sup> August 2021, children under 18 and adults who have had their second vaccination more than 14 days ago do not need to self-isolate or miss school/work if a member of their household or a close contact (either in school or outside of school) has Covid.</li><li>• They <u>will</u> need to book a PCR test but can continue coming to school so long as they have no symptoms and the test result is negative.</li></ul>
 NO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>If your child develops Covid symptoms, even if they are mild, they should <u>stay at home and get a PCR test NOT a Lateral Flow (30 minute home test)</u>.</b> If your child develops Covid symptoms at school, they will be sent home immediately and you should get a PCR test for them.</li><li>• The symptoms are:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)</li><li>- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)</li><li>- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal</li></ul></li></ul>

## What will be in place in school to help prevent cases?

1. Ensuring that children, parents/carers, staff and visitors **do not come onto the school sites if:**

- they have symptoms,
- they have had a positive test result
- they have other reasons requiring them to stay at home due to the risk of them passing on COVID-19 (for example, they are required to quarantine).

### Note on travel and quarantine:

All staff and families should follow the travel guidance <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus> which includes self-isolating, quarantine, testing requirements and travel lists. Parents/carers travelling abroad should bear in mind the impact on their child's education which may result from any requirement to quarantine or isolate upon return, that the travel list (and broader international travel policy) is subject to change and green list countries may be moved into amber or red. The travel lists may change during a visit and they must comply with international travel legislation and should have contingency plans in place to account for these changes.

2. **Ventilating** indoor spaces as much as possible throughout the day

3. **High levels of cleaning** around the school at the start of each day and in high-touch areas and toilets throughout the day

4. **Using hand hygiene practices** throughout the day, sanitising hands particularly on entry and when leaving spaces, before and after eating, after using the toilet. If your child cannot use the sanitiser in school you should provide a suitable alternative from home.

5. **Using 'catch it, kill it, bin it'** for coughs and sneezes including sanitising hands

6. **Staff will be expected (unless exempt) to wear a mask** in communal areas where distancing is not possible or when in contact with high volumes of people.

7. **We will be asking parent/carers/visitors wear a mask** (unless exempt) when on site outside and expecting this (unless exempt) when inside the building.

6. **School staff are encouraged to test themselves twice a week** using lateral flow tests (home 30 minute tests) when they do not have symptoms.

7. **Families are encouraged to test family members aged 11 and over** twice a week using lateral flow tests (home 30 minute tests) when they do not have symptoms.

Note on Lateral Flow Tests (home 30 minute tests) - These are to test when people are asymptomatic (do not have symptoms). **If a person has symptoms, even if they are mild, they should get a PCR test as soon as possible** as these tests are more sensitive to pick up infections early and are also checked for the variant in case any new variants emerge. If you get a positive lateral flow test you should get a PCR test to confirm this within 2 days. If the PCR is negative then there is no need to self-isolate after you get the test result.

## **What will happen if an individual child or member of school staff tests positive for Covid?**

- The child/staff member will need to self-isolate for 10 days/as advised by NHS Track and Trace. Remote learning will be provided for children if they are well enough to complete it and they can upload their work to Tapestry in Nursery and Reception or Seesaw in Years 1 – 6 for their teacher to see.
- The child/staff member's household:
  - if they are under 18 or have been double vaccinated for longer than 14 days they should get a PCR test as quickly as possible – they do not need to self-isolate while they wait for the test result
  - if they are over 18 and have not had both vaccinations, they should get a PCR test and will need to self-isolate for 10 days even if the result is negative
- Parents and Carers will need to be in contact with NHS Test and Trace to identify any close contacts who will need to get a PCR test to check if they have been infected. If these close contacts are over 18 and have not been vaccinated, they will need to self-isolate for 10 days.  
Close contacts are people who have been in contact in the two days before the infected person showed symptoms or have a positive test result, this could be
  - anyone who lives in the same household as another person who has COVID-19 symptoms or has tested positive for COVID-19
  - anyone who has had any of the following types of contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19:
    - face-to-face contact including being coughed on or having a face-to-face conversation within one metre
    - been within one metre for one minute or longer without face-to-face contact
    - been within 2 metres of someone for more than 15 minutes (either as a one-off contact, or added up together over one day)
    - a person may also be a close contact if they have travelled in the same vehicle or plane as a case.
- Parents/carers and staff should inform school as soon as possible on [enquiries@bellevilleschool.org](mailto:enquiries@bellevilleschool.org) as although we no longer need to carry out contact tracing, we do need to keep track of how many confirmed cases there have been in school (see below).

## **What will happen if there are a number of confirmed cases of Covid with children/staff or local/national rates of infection rise?**

- The actions for individuals should be followed as above.
- Schools can contact Public Health England (PHE) for advice at any time but should do so if 5 or more, or 10% (whichever comes first), of a group of children and staff test positive and are likely to have mixed closely. For example children and staff who are in the same class; a friendship group who have mixed at playtimes; children who are in a club or activity together.
- Public Health England will review with the school the measures that are already on place and advise on any further actions to be taken. They may also do this if cases are rising locally/nationally or if there is a new variant of concern.
- There are a range of actions that may be taken as part of the response to an outbreak and/or under the advice of PHE, e.g.:
  - 'bubbles' to reduce mixing
  - social distancing
  - changing circulation routes
  - limiting use of communal cloakrooms, bike stores and staffrooms
  - increased asymptomatic (lateral flow) testing of adults
  - limiting events, volunteers, visitors and gatherings e.g. assemblies, educational visits, open days, parental attendance inside the school, performances
  - re-introduction of shielding (only decided by government)
  - in extreme cases, and as a last resort, PHE may advise introducing short-term attendance restrictions, such as sending home a class or year group (as they could in any workplace experiencing a serious infectious disease outbreak). High-quality remote learning will be provided for all children affected who are well enough to learn from home. On-site provision will continue in all cases for vulnerable children and the children of critical workers.
- **The school will endeavour to keep any measures in education and childcare to the minimum number of sites or groups possible, and for the shortest amount of time possible.**

## **What will school be like when we come back in September 2021?**

To reduce potential disruption as much as possible, and to also continue with some unforeseen benefits of the Covid measures, we will initially continue to:

- take actions as above to help prevent cases (cleaning, hygiene, adults wearing masks, staff and family members over 11 encouraged to test with lateral flow tests twice weekly)
- have children from Years 1 – 6 coming inside by themselves at the start of the day, Reception children will start to do this later in the year as they become more confident and independent
- have a slightly staggered end of the day and offset playtimes during the day to increase space on playgrounds and should a return to bubbles be needed the timings of the day would not need to change
- serve lunches in classrooms – this allows greater playground space for outside play and closer supervision of children’s eating and socialising inside, again, should a return to bubbles be needed at short notice, this would not need to change
- turn off water fountains and encourage all children to bring a re-usable water bottle
- children can come to school and also stay in their PE kit on their PE days (no need to get changed)

We will also return to some previous practices, for example:

- children working in groups rather than sitting in rows in Years 1 - 6
- younger children having carpets and soft furnishings in their classrooms
- full one hour sessions of PE both inside and outside, as well for other specialist teaching lessons for Years 1 – 6
- use cloakroom spaces and re-open our limited bike and scooter storage area on each site

**The school will continue to review and inform parents/carers and staff of any changes to Covid measures should these be needed.**