

## St Cuthbert's Roman Catholic Academy Trust



## St Thomas More VCA

## COVID-19 Outbreak Contingency Plan - Sept. 2021

Please see the guidance below which explains when pupils should attend school and actions to take place in line with different levels of COVID risk as advised by Government and Public Health.

When should my child selfisolate or miss school?



- All children MUST attend school unless they are ill.
- From 16th August 2021, children under 18 (or double-vaccinated adults) do not need to self-isolate or miss school if a member of their household or a contact, has Covid.
- Instead, they will 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.





- If your child develops Covid symptoms at home, they should <u>stay</u> <u>at home</u> and should book a PCR test, <u>NOT</u> a Lateral Flow test.
- If your child develops Covid symptoms at school, they will be sent home and you should book them a PCR test.
- If your child tests positive for Covid, they will need to self-isolate.
   The rest of the household does not need to self-isolate if they are under 18 or fully vaccinated but instead should book a PCR test.

| Community<br>Covid Risk                           | Description  | Actions  |
|---|--|--|
| Low Community<br>Transmission.<br>No School Cases | <ul> <li>There have been no cases of Covid within school for 10 school days.</li> <li>Cases of Covid locally are low and/ or stable.</li> <li>Hospitalisation/deaths due to Covid nationally are low.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>No Covid measures are necessary beyond:</li> <li>Reminding children of good handhygiene.</li> <li>Ensuring good ventilation encouraged where practical.</li> <li>Ensuring children/staff stay at home if they have Covid Symptoms (and book a PCR test).</li> <li>Staff will continue to test themselves twiceweekly using Lateral Flow tests.</li> </ul> |
|   | No current Covid cases   | <ul> <li>Ventilation of classrooms increased &amp;</li> </ul>  |



Rapidly Rising Community Transmission

- 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.
- Hull Public Health / Public Health England issue warnings of expected local/ national infection wave.
- Ventilation of classrooms increased & hand-washing supervised.
- Large indoor public performance audience numbers reduced.
- Staff-room capacity is reduced.
- Whole-school assemblies are replaced with Key Stage assemblies.
- Clinically Vulnerable staff meet with Line-Managers to review their individual risk assessment & discuss additional protection (e.g. use of face coverings, reduction in movement between classes/ groups).

## Community Covid Risk Description



Less than 3 children test positive

- Less than three children test positive for Covid in a class.
- No other year groups are affected.
- The child self-isolates for 10 days. Remote learning will be provided if they are well enough to complete it as outlined on the school's website.

**Actions** 

- The parents of the child are contacted directly by NHS Test and Trace to establish likely contacts.
- Likely contacts will be contacted by NHS Test & Trace and advised to book a PCR Test.
- Children do not need to miss school or self-isolate whilst they wait for the result of the PCR test unless they have Covid symptoms.



3 children or staff in a single Class/ Club Test positive within 10 days of each other There have been 3
 cases of Covid across a
 year group within 10
 days which could mean
 that Covid is spreading
 within that group of
 children.

- As above for each positive case.
- The school will discuss the outbreak with Hull Public Health and agree strengthening protective measures for 10 school days, including:
  - Re-introducing staff face masks for corridors & communal areas.
  - Adapting, limiting or postponing indoor sporting events, trips, open days and performances.
  - Reverting to video-link assemblies in classrooms.
  - Reducing the number of classes staff work across.



Covid cases continue to increase rapidly within a 10day period

- 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.
- Discussion held between the school, Trust and Hull Public Health to agree further measures, for a further 10 school days, including:
  - o Re-introducing class bubbles.
  - Reverting to class-based school lunches.
  - o Limiting all non-essential visitors to school.
  - Postponing all non-essential events.
  - Re-introducing remote learning for individual classes for 10 school days considered.

The Trust and individual schools will inform parents of any changes to Covid measures should these be needed.