



North Ridge Guidance on Managing Covid 19

Summer 2022

Procedures to reduce the risk of Covid-19 disruption at North Ridge, Spring/Summer 2022

This document is based on guidance from both the DfE and Joint Union guidance

Risk assessments

Individual risk assessments for those most vulnerable in respect of COVID 19 will continue to be reviewed in line with DfE guidance.

Our whole school risk assessment will be revised and communicated based on changing situations.

Vaccinations

Although it is an individual's choice, we continue to urge all colleagues to get fully vaccinated, including boosters. This message is reflected in the DfE's own guidance [Schools COVID-19 operational guidance \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/103111/schools-covid-19-operational-guidance.pdf). This is to protect everyone, including more vulnerable colleagues and students, the community, the provision of in-person education and, ultimately, the ability of the NHS to treat the backlog of serious non-Covid-related conditions.

Ventilation

Covid-19 spreads through the air. Good ventilation reduces the amount of virus in the air and therefore helps reduce the risk from aerosol transmission. It is key to a safer indoor working environment, and this is recognised by the DfE which recommends Health and Safety Executive guidance on air conditioning and ventilation during the Covid-19 pandemic [Ventilation and air conditioning during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) pandemic \(hse.gov.uk\)](https://www.hse.gov.uk/covid19/ventilation.htm) and CIBSE Covid-19 advice [CIBSE - Coronavirus COVID 19](https://www.cibse.org/~/media/Files/2020/09/CIBSE-Coronavirus-COVID-19.pdf).

CO2 monitors are in place across school and measures should be taken, e.g. opening windows, in order to keep CO2 below 800ppm in occupied classrooms.

If the levels are consistently above 800ppm, and ventilation cannot be improved, naturally or mechanically, then options available include reducing the number of people in the room, reducing the length of time groups spend in the room, or temporarily vacating the room.

Face Coverings and PPE

Although face coverings are no longer recommended by the Government, we will adopt an agile approach and respond appropriately and proportionately to spikes and outbreaks by reinstating the wearing of masks as part of risk assessments and in response to local public health guidance. This is in line with DfE guidance which states that schools need to be ready with contingency plans to step up guidance where required.

No member of staff or pupil should be prevented from wearing a face covering in any part of the premises.

Personal protective equipment (PPE) should continue to be provided for staff administering first aid, medical care or personal care activities in all educational settings.

Asymptomatic testing

The Government no longer request schools to continue taking part in regular asymptomatic testing and are instead advised to follow testing advice for the general population.

In the event of an outbreak, schools may be advised by their local health team or director of public health to undertake testing of staff and students of secondary age and above for a temporary period.

Isolation

- adults with the symptoms of a respiratory infection, and who have a high temperature or feel unwell, should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature
- children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend

- adults with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days, which is when they are most infectious. For children and young people aged 18 and under, the advice will be 3 days

Hygiene

We will continue to maintain the high standards of hygiene throughout school including regular handwashing and sanitising.

A dedicated member of the site team will remain in place during the school day in order to clean high touch areas continually.
