

COVID 19 OUTBREAK PLAN

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The Government has made it a national priority that education and childcare settings should continue to operate as normally as possible during the COVID-19 pandemic. As of September 2021, Cameron Vale School and The Chelsea Nursery will be operating under Step 4 guidelines and will return to typical operations. The government guidance for school released on the 19th July 2021 specifies that schools should develop Outbreak Plans so that they can take appropriate steps to mitigate the effect of any Outbreak, while maintaining their education offer.

DEFINITION OF AN OUTBREAK

An Outbreak may be identified through one of the following

- discussion with PHE or other bodies highlights an issue specific to school
- if there is extremely high prevalence of COVID-19 in the community and this impacts on the operation of the school
- a Variant of Concern (VoC) is identified on a regional or national basis that may impact the school

This Outbreak Management Plan outlines the steps Cameron Vale School and The Chelsea Nursery may take to mitigate the impact of the above. This plan includes how Cameron Vale School and The Chelsea Nursery will ensure every child receives the quantity and quality of education and care to which they are normally entitled.

PRIORITISING EDUCATION

The impacts of having missed education during the pandemic are severe for children, young people and adults. We will seek to keep any measures in education and childcare to the minimum number of settings or groups possible, and for the shortest amount of time possible. We will monitor any measures and lift them as soon as the evidence supports doing so.

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE SCHOOL DAY

The school may consider reintroducing ways of limiting contact between large groups within school. This may include adjusting break and lunch arrangements or adjusting the timetable to limit the amount of movement around schools. These measures should be taken without restricting the timetable and educational opportunities for children. A return to separate bubbles may be considered as part of this following discussion.

ATTENDANCE RESTRICTIONS

Measures affecting education and childcare settings across an area should not be considered in isolation, but as part of a broader package of measures. Attendance restrictions should only ever be considered as a last resort;

The Chelsea Nursery - If attendance restrictions are needed, vulnerable children and children of critical workers will be allowed to attend.

Reception to Year 6 - If some attendance restrictions are needed, all vulnerable children, children of critical workers, children in Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and exam groups will still be allowed to attend. If, by exception, attendance is restricted further,

vulnerable children and children of critical workers will attend. As with other periods of restricted attendance, Cameron Vale School and The Chelsea Nursery will provide high quality remote education for all pupils or those not attending. If restrictions on pupil attendance are needed, the school will determine the workforce required onsite and whether it is appropriate for some staff to work remotely.

ADDITIONAL MEASURES

This Outbreak Management Plan outlines how the school will operate if any of additional measures are recommended for the school site from national guidance due to a Variant of Concern or extended lockdown measures.

COVID-19 RISK ASSESSMENT

Cameron Vale School and The Chelsea Nursery continues to update site specific COVID-19 Risk Assessments in line with national guidance. COVID-19 Risk Assessments are updated in consultation with other school leaders and Forfar Education.

TESTING

Cameron Vale School and The Chelsea Nursery is prepared for the reintroduction of Asymptomatic Testing Sites. These measures may be advised:

- by Directors of Public Health (PHE) as part of their responsibilities in outbreak management.
- for settings across areas that have been offered an enhanced response package, where settings and Directors of Public Health decide it is appropriate
- we will establish a dedicated testing site following national guidance and previous guidance from the Schools and Colleges Testing Handbook V3.7.
- we will reintroduce specific roles to support testing. Refresher training for staff will be made available, if required.
- we will ensure that asymptomatic testing does not negatively impact on the education provided to pupils.

HOME TESTING

Cameron Vale School and The Chelsea Nursery will continue to provide testing kits for all staff for twice weekly testing. Evidence of negative test results administered within 48 hours will be requested for access to school sites for events such as taster days and school events.

FACE COVERINGS

Cameron Vale School and The Chelsea Nursery may introduce the use of face masks in schools for staff and pupils in cases of including communal areas and classrooms. This would take into consideration the guidance on face masks (coverings) issued by the government, and the school would consider the age groups that this would apply to within this decision. COVID-19 Risk Assessments will be updated in line with guidance and parents/carers will be informed of the reintroduction of face coverings. The school will ensure that it has sufficient stock of PPE including face masks.

SHIELDING

Shielding is currently paused and can only be reintroduced by National Government. Shielding would be considered in addition to other measures to address the residual risk to people on the SPL, once the wider interventions are taken into account. Risk Assessments will be updated to include shielding and Cameron Vale School and The Chelsea Nursery will support individuals with remote working, if required.

EDUCATION WORKFORCE

Cameron Vale School and The Chelsea Nursery will continue to support staff and pupils through Risk Assessments and support those who are, and will continue, to implement the system of controls set out in the COVID-19 operational guidance for educational settings. The COVID-19 Risk Assessments explain to staff the measures that have been put in place to reduce risks to staff, including how these protective measures have been reviewed.

OTHER MEASURES FIXTURES AND COMPETITIONS

In most circumstances, children should be allowed to attend fixtures and competitions as arranged as planned. The school will work closely with other schools and associations, considering guidance from relevant sporting organisations. Cameron Vale School and The Chelsea Nursery will consider factors including the facilities being used e.g. indoor vs outdoor, and level of contact in considering whether it may be necessary to postpone or cancel fixtures in the event of an outbreak.

EDUCATIONAL VISITS

Risk Assessments for trips include COVID-19 procedures and are updated following national guidance.

- Educational Day Visits were able to resume from 12th April 2021
- Domestic Residential Educational Visits can be undertaken from 17th May 2021
- International Visits can resume from 5th September 2021*

Any visits will be conducted in line with relevant COVID-secure guidelines and regulations and a full risk assessment in relation to all educational visits will be undertaken to ensure they can be undertaken safely; this will include considering steps taken by any venues. As part of this risk assessment, we will consider what control measures need to be used and follow wider advice on visiting indoor and outdoor venues. The Senior Leadership Team at Cameron Vale School and The Chelsea Nursery will consult the health and safety guidance on educational visits when considering trips.

Educational Visits will be reviewed and potentially postponed in the event of an outbreak within the school or local community.

*With due consideration going to the ongoing status of countries on the red, amber and green list rules for entering England.

OPEN DAYS AND ON-SITE EVENTS

In the event of an outbreak, transitional, taster and open days will be managed through the completion of a thorough risk assessment in line with agreed system of controls. Open days will be reviewed and potentially postponed/cancelled in the event of an outbreak. In the event of cancellation, remote transitional, taster and open days will be managed by the Senior Leadership Team.

Individual site risk assessments will be completed and will include:

- parents/carers will be asked to produce a negative COVID-19 test before entry to site. This must be recorded within 48 hours prior to the event.
- maximum number of participants (if any)
- all visitors to wear face coverings
- outline of locations where attendees can regularly wash/sanitise hands

PARENTAL ATTENDANCE IN SETTINGS

In the event of an outbreak, parents/carers will be advised to limit their access to site as much as possible.

Parents/carers or visitors permitted on school site by invitation only and must have an arranged appointment. All visitors will be expected to wear a face covering and will be informed of this when a meeting is booked. This can be removed in the venue for the meeting if social distancing is possible.

Where possible, conversations with parents/carers staff will be either over the phone or via the school's email addresses.

Parents/carers will not be permitted to attend school fixtures or competitions.

PERFORMANCES IN SETTINGS

If the school is planning an indoor or outdoor face-to-face performance in front of a live audience, we will continue to follow the latest performing arts guidance, and the guidance on delivering outdoor events. Performances will be reviewed and potentially postponed/cancelled in the event of an outbreak.

OUTDOOR EVENTS

Outdoor events are generally lower risk. Once the school has undertaken a risk assessment and planned the event in line with the system of controls, the school may consider an outdoor event that caters for more than one bubble or consistent group, as long as the groups continue to be kept separate.

CLUBS AND BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

In most circumstances, children should be allowed to attend Clubs and before and after school care as planned. If attendance restrictions are needed, vulnerable children and young people will be allowed to attend. For all other children, parents and carers will only be allowed to access this service for face-to-face provision for their children for a limited set of essential purposes, such as to allow them to go to or seek work, attend a medical appointment, or undertake education and training. Restrictions on attendance may need to vary depending to ensure sufficient childcare provision remains available to those that need it most.

CLEANING

Cameron Vale School and The Chelsea Nursery continues to follow robust cleaning regimes in the school with dedicated cleaning staff who follow robust routines of maintaining standards of hygiene throughout the school.