NMAT Covid-19 Outbreak Management Plan



1. Introduction

This plan is based on the contingency framework for managing local outbreaks of Covid -19, published by the Department for Education (DfE).

NMAT academies will only implement some, or all, of the measures in this plan in response to recommendations provided by the Director of Public Health (DsPH), Public Health England (PHE) health protection team, Public Health Teesside Health Protection Team or the national government.

It may be necessary to implement these measures in the following circumstances:

- To help manage a Covid -19 outbreak within the Academy;
- If Covid -19 infection rates in the community are extremely high, and other measures have failed to reduce transmission:
- As part of a package of measures responding to a 'variant of concern' (VoC), as advised by Public Health Teesside Health Protection Team and/or the national government.

2. Testing

If recommended, we will reinstate/increase the use of home testing by students and staff. If it is advised that we reintroduce an asymptomatic testing site (ATS) at our school, we will consult with the Director of Public Health (DsPH) to discuss any further support we need to do this. The Trust will ensure that all DfE and Public Health guidance is followed.

3. Face Coverings

If recommended, students, staff and visitors who are not exempt from wearing a face covering:

 Will be asked to keep on or put on a face covering when arriving at the Academy and moving around indoors in places where social distancing is difficult to maintain, such as in communal areas;

And/or:

 Will be asked to wear a face covering in classrooms or during activities, unless social distancing can be maintained or a face covering would impact on the ability to take part in exercise or strenuous activity.

4. Shielding

The Trust will adhere to national guidance on the reintroduction of shielding. We will speak to individuals required to shield about additional protective measures in school or arrangements for home working or learning.

5. Other Measures

If recommended, we will limit:

- Residential educational visits;
- Open days;

This policy will be kept under regular review in light of legal developments and best practice.

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- Transition or taster days;
- Parents/carers coming into the Academy;
- Live performances.

6. Attendance Restrictions

Attendance restrictions will only be recommended as a last resort. If recommended by the national government, we will implement the measures in this section.

6.1 Eligibility to remain in school

In the first instance, the Academy will stay open for:

- Vulnerable students;
- Children of critical workers:
- Year 10 and 11 students;
- Year 12 and 13 students;
- Any other pupils due to take external exams this academic year.

If further restrictions are recommended, we will stay open for:

- Vulnerable students;
- Children of critical workers.

6.2 Education and support for students at home

If advised by national government, all other students will be required to stay at home and will receive remote education. We will aim to deliver remote education that meets the same quality and quantity of education that students would receive in school, as outlined in the Trust's Remote Learning Policy.

The Academy will continue to provide meals or lunch parcels for students eligible for benefits-related free school meals while they are not attending school because of Covid -19 isolation guidelines.

6.3 Safeguarding

We will review the Trust's Child Protection Policy to make sure it reflects the local restrictions and remains effective.

We will aim to have a trained DSL or deputy DSL on site wherever possible.