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## Covid-19 Framework - March, 2022

### 1. Latest Updates

This document was first published in August 2020, but has since been updated frequently and in line with Government guidance changes; this version reflects the latest updates from the Department for Education (DfE), issued on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022, and outlines our response to the Government's Living with COVID-19 plan.

### 2. Introduction

Our School operations have been led by Government guidance, the latest parent version of which can be found [here](#), and informed always by our four key aims, which look to ensure LJS is:

1. A safe school that minimises the risk of individual, group and school-wide infection
2. A happy school that supports wellbeing and relationships
3. An engaged school that ensures excellent progress is made by all children
4. A compliant school that meets the expectations of the Government guidance

This updated Covid-19 Framework supports our school to achieve these aims and, whilst we have looked to be as comprehensive as possible, please feel free to contact any member of the team should you have specific queries or concerns; we are always here to help and determined to support our community at every step.

### 3. Health and Safety: Control Measures

#### Covid-19 Risk Assessment

We continue to have a comprehensive Covid-19 risk assessment in place. This is reviewed and updated at regular intervals and is available for community members to look through; if you would like to do so, please contact our Deputy Head, Ms Crump ([smc@laxtonjunior.org.uk](mailto:smc@laxtonjunior.org.uk)).

#### Mixing and 'Bubbles'

There is no requirement to keep pupils in consistent groups or 'bubbles'. Whole school assemblies and other group activities, such as House meetings and clubs are now operating as normal. However, the DfE state that if there is an outbreak in our school or if our school is in an enhanced response area, we might be advised to reintroduce 'bubbles' or to keep groups apart for a temporary period to reduce mixing.

#### Social Distancing

Social distancing between individuals is not required.

#### Face Coverings

The wearing of face coverings on the school site is now optional; any community member who would like to wear a face covering will be supported to do so. If there is an outbreak in our school or if our school is in an enhanced response area, we might be advised that face covering requirements change.

#### Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

In School, PPE (which may include a face covering, gloves and an apron) may continue to be used if:

- An individual child displays symptoms and a distance of two metres cannot be maintained
- A child already has a routine intimate care need that involves the use of PPE
- There is a first aid emergency

- Intimate care is needed to be given

### **Respiratory and Hand Hygiene**

'Catch it, Kill it, Bin it' continues to be used to promote good respiratory hygiene. Tissues and lidded bins are available in each learning space and are used to dispose of any tissues used to catch coughs or sneezes.

Frequent and thorough hand cleaning will also continue to be regular practice, and we will ensure that staff and pupils clean their hands regularly. This will be done with soap and water or hand sanitiser. All classrooms have the appropriate resources to support positive hand hygiene.

### **Cleaning Arrangements**

We will continue to have cleaning arrangements in place to ensure that all learning spaces and surfaces that are touched more often (e.g. stair handrails and door handles) are cleaned frequently.

### **Ventilation**

We will continue to ensure that School is well ventilated and that a comfortable teaching environment is maintained. Opening external windows to improve natural ventilation and, in addition, opening internal doors will assist with creating a throughput of air.

### **Critically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV) Children**

All CEV children should attend School unless they are one of the very small number of children under paediatric or other specialist care who have been advised by their GP or clinician not to attend; to discuss this further, please contact Ms Crump ([smc@laxtonjunior.org.uk](mailto:smc@laxtonjunior.org.uk)).

## **4. Health and Safety: Response to a Possible or Positive Case**

### **Covid-19 Symptoms**

Pupils, staff and other adults should follow public health advice on when to self-isolate and what to do. Children should not come into school if they have one or more symptoms, have had a positive test result or 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).

According to [NHS guidance](#), children can get Covid-19 but they seem to get it less often than adults and it's usually less serious. The main symptoms of Covid-19 are:

- A high temperature
- A new, continuous cough (this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours)
- A loss or change to sense of smell or taste (this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal)

### **Positive Test Results**

If a positive PCR or lateral flow test result is returned, you should refer to the '[COVID-19 Response: Living with COVID-19](#)' and are advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 full days and then continue to follow the guidance until they have received 2 negative test results on consecutive days. Please contact the school to let us know; please email Ms Crump ([smc@laxtonjunior.org.uk](mailto:smc@laxtonjunior.org.uk)) and the School office ([info@laxtonjunior.org.uk](mailto:info@laxtonjunior.org.uk)).

### **Contact Tracing**

From 24<sup>th</sup> February, routine contact tracing will end and contacts will no longer be required to self-isolate or advised to take daily tests; those testing positive will, however, be advised to inform their close contacts so that they can follow the '[COVID-19 Response: Living with COVID-19](#)' guidance. The School will no longer report cases of Covid-19 to relevant year groups but may support a family in informing close contacts should it be necessary to do so.

## **Symptoms at School**

If your child is feeling too unwell to be at school, they should stay at home. If they have symptoms of Covid-19, they should not come to school and we will advise families that they should undertake a PCR test; however, it is no longer a legal requirement to do so.

## **Asymptomatic Testing**

From 21<sup>st</sup> February, twice-weekly asymptomatic testing of staff will cease and schools will no longer be able to order LFD tests in support of this. You can order lateral flow tests or find your local pharmacy or collection point [here](#), for free, until 1<sup>st</sup> April.

## **Self-Isolation**

In the event of a child having to self-isolate and assuming that they are well, we would look to implement our Contingency Plan for remote teaching, learning and care. Further details about this can be found below.

## **5. School Operations**

### **School Calendar and Events**

We continue to return to a full programme of events for the 2021-2022 academic year, to which we look forward to inviting parents into school to attend in person.

### **Breaks and Lunch**

We continue to enjoy whole school breaktimes with no restrictions on where children can play and with whom. Children are also able to mix with others during their lunch break and dining experience.

### **Trips and Visitors**

A full programme of trips and residentials is planned, and we will continue welcoming a range of visitors into School to enrich our curriculum. For each experience, we will be ensuring that risk assessments take into account Covid-19 considerations, should this be necessary.

### **After-School Clubs and Wraparound Care**

Our full range of after-school clubs continue with no requirement for clubs to operate within the 'bubbles'. Griffin Club will continue to be available before and after school, and children will no longer be expected to stay within their year group 'bubble' during these times.

### **Music**

Children singing together in Music lessons and choirs, continues. Choirs and ensembles are no longer be limited to practise and perform in individual 'bubbles'.

### **Sport**

Our Games lessons continue to enable children to practise, play and compete in mixed groups with no restrictions. Fixtures will take place as part of a full programme of competition and events throughout the year. Swimming lessons continue as normal.

## **6. Contingency Plan**

Schools are expected to have a Contingency Plan in place that provides the necessary detail of how they will ensure a continuity of education in response to the self-isolation of individual or groups of self-isolating pupils. Indeed, where a small number of pupils or an individual need to self-isolate, remote learning will be set from the second full day of absence, assuming that they are well. The learning will be set via assignments on Teams. If a pupil is off school because they are unwell no remote learning will be shared.

### **Sam Robertson**

Head of LJS

March, 2022