



# Clarity Independent School

13th May 2022

## COVID-19 response statement - Leading Clarity out of COVID-19

This article reflects the latest government guidance as of **4pm on 29 April 2022**.

### What's the latest news?

On 5th April 2022, the operational guidance for schools and managing coronavirus (COVID-19) in education and childcare settings were withdrawn. We are therefore now using a COVID management plan as part of our school's critical incident plan, linking health protection in education and childcare settings for infectious disease as our main source of guidance for emergency planning. Please see our **Critical Incident Plan** on our website for more information. This is a plan of how we can minimise disruption to pupils' education in the case of a critical incident (including an outbreak of an infectious disease), maximise the number of pupils receiving face-to-face provision and help staff respond effectively to an emergency on site or during an educational visit.

### Current state of play

#### Education

- The remote education temporary continuity direction is no longer in place. This means that we are no longer *required* to provide remote education for pupils unable to attend school due to COVID; however, we will still *consider* providing remote education to such pupils unable to attend in-person, for example when:
  - Our school needs to close, in order to follow guidance from local or central government



Approved Assessor for  
Disabled Students'  
Allowance



Guild Member  
Assessment Practising  
Certificate holder



INPP  
Practitioner



AMBDA Status

- Individual pupils have an infectious illness, but are well enough to continue learning
- Please see our updated **Remote Learning Policy** on our website for more information

## **Attendance**

- Schools are again required to remind parents that attendance at school is a mandatory, legal requirement, and students must attend every term time day unless they are poorly and need to see a doctor, are isolating due to a valid reason, or have a medical appointment.
- The DfE no longer advises the use of 'code X' to record pupils who are not attending school for reasons related to coronavirus.

## **Testing and responding to cases**

- The legal requirement to self-isolate has been removed, though staff and pupils are advised to try to stay home if they have symptoms of a respiratory infection and a high temperature, or if they feel unwell (returning to school when they feel well enough, and no longer have a high temperature)
- Asymptomatic testing is no longer expected in schools, and schools can't order free lateral flow tests anymore
- Those who choose to test and test positive, will be advised to try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people:
  - Staff for 5 days
  - Pupils for 3 days
- More information can be found in the [UKHSA guidance](#)

## **Health and safety measures applied in school**

A positive outcome of the pandemic has been the realisation, on a worldly scale, of how important environmental hygiene is amongst close communities such as schools. At Clarity, we have therefore decided to continue with many of the tougher hygiene procedures introduced during the pandemic, in order to prevent the transmission of infectious illnesses such as colds, viruses, tummy bugs and other infectious illnesses through our school community. These include;

- **Washing hands:** We will continue to encourage pupils to wash their hands at regular intervals throughout the day, as part of living healthily and preventing the spread of many infectious illnesses and diseases, as well as being part of good practice.
- **Cleaning of touch points:** Touch points will be sanitised around the school on a daily basis and we will continue to encourage the pupils to sanitise their desk at the end of the day, ready for fresh use the next day.
- **Promoting good respiratory hygiene:** We will continue to spread the message '*catch it, bin it, kill it*' around our school community.
- **Ventilation:** occupied spaces will still be kept well ventilated. Poorly ventilated spaces will be identified and steps taken to improve fresh air flow.
- **Vaccination:** We will continue to update our school community about vaccinations for COVID and other infectious diseases, facilitate and encourage take up where possible.
- **Our emergency plan:** This is in place in case of critical incident and is available on our website.
- **COVID-19 status checks for events and visitors to school:** We are no longer required by law to use the NHS COVID Pass as a condition of entry to any indoor events (like school visits and parents' meetings), but may still do so if we wish. Risk assessment indicates that this is not currently viewed as necessary at Clarity. We are advised not to use the NHS COVID Pass or proof of a negative test as a condition of entry for:
  - Education or related activities, like exams, teaching, extra-curricular activities, or
  - Any other day-to-day activities that are part of education or training, e.g. specialist professionals visiting the school to deliver interventions

## School accountability in 2021/22

- **School and college level results data** weren't published in performance tables in autumn 2020 or autumn 2021. This data won't be used to hold schools and colleges to account. In addition, results data from 2020/21 won't be used in school and college level performance measures in future years. At Clarity, we have not conducted formal examinations during this period, as we have not had students in attendance who are at the necessary stage in their education over this period of time. This summer, 2022 will be the first year that we are conducting formal assessments; Entry Levels, and have students of the required age to do so.
- **Primary school tests and assessments** will return in 2021/22 without any adaptations, but the results won't be published in Key Stage (KS) 2 performance

tables in the 2021/22 academic year. At Clarity, we do not have students at an appropriate age to study Key Stage 2 SATS this year.

- At **Key Stage (KS) 4 and post-16**, results from qualifications achieved in 2021/22 will be published on school and college performance tables, using the DfE's normal suite of accountability measures, as far as it's possible. At Clarity, we will be conducting Entry Level qualifications this summer in 2022 for the pupils at the required age.
- **Ofsted:** COVID-19 updates related to Ofsted include; allowing more time to gather evidence at inspection, evaluating the performance of its inspection frameworks, including the education inspection framework (EIF), a stronger focus on early years, a tougher stance on safeguarding and pupil welfare, including unregistered settings and harmful sexual behaviour, more summary evaluations, more research and analysis, including into MATs (Multi-academy Trusts) and alternative provision (AP), reaching out to the wider society, including those who might not be as familiar with Ofsted's work, diversifying and expanding its workforce, including developing a knowledge of MATs.

*'Stay safe and well!'*

Written by D. Hanson

Head Teacher, Clarity Independent School