



COVID-19: Outbreak management plan

Version 2.0

July 2021

Approved by:

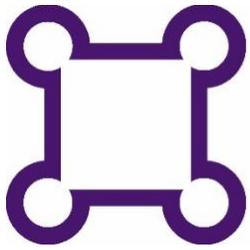
Name ...Marie Sweetlove.....

Signed  Chief Executive officer

Date.....20/07/2021.....

Next review date...20/07/2022.....

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FORTIS TRUST

STRENGTH IN PARTNERSHIP

**COVID-19:
Outbreak
management plan**

July 2021

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 This plan is based on the [contingency framework for managing local outbreaks](#) of COVID-19, provided by the Department for Education (DfE). We will only implement some, or all, of the measures in this plan in response to recommendations provided by our local authority (LA), Director of Public Health (DsPH), Public Health England (PHE) health protection team, the Regional Schools Commissioner Team or the national government.
- 1.2 It may be necessary to implement these measures in the following circumstances, for example:
 - To help manage a COVID-19 outbreak within an academy, school, provision or partner of the Trust.
 - 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)
- 1.3 Current 'live' risk assessments should be considered in conjunction with this plan.

2. Shielding

- 2.1 We will adhere to national guidance on the reintroduction of shielding, which would apply to those on the [shielded patient list \(SPL\)](#).
- 2.2 We will speak to individuals required to shield about additional protective measures in Fortis Trust provisions or arrangements for home working or learning. Students or Interns will be supported in line with the Trust Remote Learning policy.

3. Other measures

- 3.1 If recommended, we will implement additional measures in line with recommendations provided by our local authority (LA), Director of Public Health (DsPH), Public Health England (PHE) health protection team or the national government to manage and respond to outbreaks, infection risks or extremely high infection rates.
- 3.2 The following may need to be limited:
 - Residential educational visits
 - Off-site extra-curricular visits
 - Open days
 - Transition or taster days
 - Parents coming into Trust or F2E provisions
 - Live performances
 - Work experience & work placements

4. Testing

- 4.1 If after September 2021 it is recommended, we will reintroduce our asymptomatic testing site (ATS).
- 4.2 This measure may be advised:
 - for an individual provision or a small cluster of provisions only, by DsPH as part of their responsibilities in outbreak management (in most cases a 'cluster' will be no more than 3 or 4 provisions linked in the same outbreak), or
 - for provisions across areas that have been offered an enhanced response package, where provisions and DsPH decide it is appropriate

- 4.3 Reintroducing ATS would need to be agreed in consultation with DsPH to consult with the Trust and work with us to identify what support may be needed to do this.
- 4.4 Consideration will be given to how ATS could be implemented in a way that does not negatively impact on education for students/interns.
- 4.5 The Trust will liaise with DsPH to provide regular updates on all cases where they are considering recommending ATS for an education provision.
- 4.6 Alternatively, advice may be given to increase the use of home testing by staff, students and interns across the Trust and F2E.

5. Face coverings

- 5.1 The use of face coverings will no longer be a requirement from the 19th July 2021, however, it may be necessary to implement these measures if one of the circumstances outlined in 1.2 occurs. This would most likely be a temporary measure which would apply to staff and possibly to secondary or post 16 students/Interns.
- 5.2. The temporary reintroduction of face coverings may include the use of face coverings in communal areas (for students, interns and staff) and/or classrooms (for both students, interns and staff). Any guidance to reinstate face coverings will allow for reasonable exemptions for their use. Students / interns who are exempt will be issued with exemption badges as required.

6. Attendance Restrictions

- 6.1 Attendance restrictions will only be recommended as a last resort and in line with the Trust Contingency Policy. If recommended, we will implement the measures outlined in this section.
- 6.2 In the first instance, we will stay open for:
 - Those students/interns deemed as vulnerable
 - Children of critical workers
 - Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 students
- 6.3 If further restrictions are recommended, we will stay open for:
 - Those students/interns deemed as extremely vulnerable
 - Children of critical workers
- 6.4 Only where absolutely necessary and in line with the guidance within the Trust Contingency plan will Trust provisions close completely to all students/interns.
- 6.5 Where measures require attendance restrictions, the Department for Education (DfE) may advise on any groups that should be prioritised.

7. Education and support for students/interns at home

- 7.1 All students/interns who may be required to stay at home and will receive remote education, in line with current DfE guidelines
- 7.2 We will aim to deliver remote education that meets the same quality and quantity of education that students/interns would receive in Trust/F2E provisions, as outlined in our remote learning policy.
- 7.3 The Trust will work with catering providers and the local authority to provide food hampers/vouchers for students eligible for benefit-related free school meals while they

are not attending on site provision because of COVID-19 isolation guidelines. Parents/Carers will be expected to make arrangement to collect food hampers, while e-vouchers will be distributed via email. Parents will be asked to confirm desire to receive this support via a forms survey each time a need for support arises.

8. Wraparound care

- 8.1 We will limit access to before and after-hours activities and wraparound care during term time and the summer holidays to those that need it most.
- 8.2 We will communicate who will be eligible to attend once the restrictions are confirmed.

9. Safeguarding

- 9.1 We will review our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy to make sure it reflects the local restrictions and remains effective.
- 9.2 We will aim to have a trained DSL or deputy DSL on site wherever possible. If our DSL or Deputy DSLs can't be on site, they can be contacted by email or telephone.
- 9.3 On occasions where there is no DSL or Deputy DSL on site, a senior leader will take responsibility for coordinating safeguarding on site.

10. Links with other policies

- 10.1 This COVID-19: Outbreak management plan is linked to:
 - Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
 - Critical Incident/ Business Contingency Plan

11. Key contacts

PHE Advice Line– the PHE advice line, accessed by calling the DfE Coronavirus helpline on 0800 046 8687

PHE Kent Health Protection Team (South East), Phone: 0344 225 3861

Out of hours for health professionals only: please phone 0844 967 0085

Medway Consultant in Public Health: Colin Thompson Direct line: 01634 332633

Mobile: 07864 954878

Email: colin.thompson@medway.gov.uk

Medway LA

Working hours

Paul Clarke: 01634 331 031

Wendy Vincent: Direct Dial: 01634 331619

Chris Kiernan: 07958 411 564 (24hours)

Out of hours:

Paul Clarke: 07717828306

Chris Kiernan: 07958 411 564 (24hours)

Office of the Regional Schools Commissioner – Kent & Medway: Terrance Thomas,

Delivery Officer Kent and Medway, Phone: 07384809351 Email:

Terrence.thomas@education.gov.uk