

# COVID-19 Changes to Culford School Nursing Service

JULY 2020

Culford School: CULFORD SCHOOL

Policy owner: EMILY DEANE
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**AIM:** To protect pupils, staff and the wider community from exposure to Covid-19 by limiting the risk of transmission while continuing to deliver an efficient and caring school nursing service.

**ACTION:** To review normal nursing procedures and adapt accordingly, in order to ensure safe assessment and treatment of pupils' medical needs (physical, emotional, mental) and for boarders to continue to safely access primary care services (GP service, out-patients, prescriptions, mental health services, chronic care management).

**PLAN:** Operational Change - To reduce the risk of transmission of Covid-19 the nursing team will deliver the two main types of care i.e. injury and illness in separate locations, for the duration of the Autumn term with the likelihood of extending this for the whole academic year 2020-21. See flow chart below

#### **FIRST AID**

- All those injured and requiring first aid should attend the new First Aid Room, centrally located and clearly signposted between Ashby Dinning Hall and Edwards House.
- This will be staffed by our HCA and First Aid Trainer Mandy Chipping Mon Fri 10.30am—5.30pm. As social distancing will not be possible during first aid assessment and treatment, the first aider will be required to wear a single use apron, gloves and a surgical mask. (Following UK PPE guidelines for relevant procedures and Culford school nursing protocols)
- Culford staff are informed of updates given by the Resuscitation Council (UK) on resuscitation in the community

# **ILLNESS**

- All those unwell should attend the medical centre.
- To enter the building pupils will use the usual intercom in the foyer. Once the nature of their visit has been ascertained by the nurse the pupil will be directed to the side of the medical centre and enter a single room. The nurse will be wearing procedure appropriate PPE and therefore able to assess and treat as necessary. Please see flowchart below for further explanation of care thereafter.
- Over the counter medicines will not be given in boarding houses to pupils that are unwell until further
  notice, this is to mitigate potential exposure of Covid-19 to the boarding community by ensuring all
  pupils who are unwell are assessed, in person or over the phone, by the nursing team. Boarding pupils
  will be able to access pain relief in the boarding houses for non-illness matters such as sports injuries
  or menstrual cramps.

#### **ASSESSMENT OF PUPILS**

During the Covid-19 pandemic medical professionals around the world have developed ways of safely assessing patients remotely. We have established different medical sites within the school to safely deliver first aid, assessment and care of illness and isolation of boarding pupils with Covid-19.

It might be necessary, on occasion, for pupils to be assessed remotely by one of the school nurses online, via google meets. A Healthcare Assistant will always be physically present with the pupil and participating in the assessment and ongoing care.



## COMMUNICATION

Our normal systems of communication to parents are unchanged.

- Day pupils blue card system
- Boarding pupils blue card system for matrons, email to parents
- Boarders cared for in the san overnight twice daily updates email/phone call to parents/guardians.

## **ROUTINE SCREENING**

- Daily 'Fit for School?' see below. All staff and pupils are asked to complete a daily Fit for School? questionnaire. We ask the parents of all day pupils to complete this before coming to school. Matron and Form Tutors will cover this with boarders.
- Daily temperature checks for all boarders, matrons will oversee this each morning. Each boarding
  house has a wall mounted non-touch thermometer pupils with a temperature of 37.8 or over will be
  referred to the medical centre for assessment.

#### Fit for School?

- 1. Do you feel well today? Yes/No
- 2. Have you lost your sense of smell and/or taste? Yes/No
- 3. Do you have a new, persistent cough? Yes/No
- 4. Do you have a high temperature? If possible please use a thermometer to take your temperature, if not is it hot to touch on your chest or back? Yes/No

If you have answered yes to any of the above please do not attend school today but seek advice from NHS 111 or if you are a boarder please go to the medical centre

## **ROUTINE TESTING FOR COVID-19**

Culford school will follow the advice of the Boarding School Association with regard to routine testing for those that are asymptomatic (without symptoms) in the boarding community.

# **TESTING FOR BOARDERS WITH COVID-19 SYMPTOMS**

If a boarding pupil presents with Covid-19 symptoms local NHS procedures for testing will be followed. If on the advice of the local GP service/NHS 111/emergency ambulance service a pupil requires hospitalisation due to their symptoms they will be cared for in an NHS hospital. The nursing staff will give regular and clear updates to parents/guardians.

## **QUARANTINE AND ISOLATION FOR BOARDERS**

If a boarding pupil develops symptoms associated with Covid-19 they will be isolated in the medical centre; designated 'hot' area and cared for by the nursing team. The medical centre has limited space to isolate and care for pupils, and therefore planning is underway to increase our capacity elsewhere on the school site should it be required.



Boarding pupils from their 'bubble' will go into quarantine in the boarding house. If the test is negative the pupil can come out of isolation and return to school and their 'bubble' can come out of quarantine.

If a pupil tests positive for Covid-19 either with or without symptoms they will be required to enter isolation for at least 7 days. Pupils and staff that have been in contact with the pupil will be required to quarantine for 14 days. Track and trace procedures will be initiated by public health.

## **NON COVID-19 MATTERS**

As far as possible the nursing team intend to carry out our usual school nursing service. The school doctors will continue to visit the school twice a week and prescription delivery and out-patient appointments will run as usual. We have a designated 'cold' room to care for boarding pupils that are unwell with non covid illness. However our bed capacity is reduced by dividing the medical centre in this manner, so appreciate parental understanding during this time.

# How to safely access the school nursing service

