



ALLEYN'S JUNIOR SCHOOL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) POLICY

Name of Policy	Coronavirus (COVID-19) Policy
ISI Regulation	Part 3: Welfare, Health and Safety and other legislation; 13a
Reviewed by	Junior School SMT
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This policy applies to Alleyn's Junior School including EYFS.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Policy

The severity of the COVID-19 pandemic has been reduced by the vaccination programme. A substantial proportion of adults are now fully vaccinated, with a weakening of the link between infection and severe disease. Infections, however, continue at a high rate and vigilance will be required this Winter to reduce risks wherever possible. The wellbeing of staff, children and their extended families depends on us all doing our part and following government guidance.

The Government has made it a national priority that schools should continue to operate as normally as possible during the COVID-19 pandemic by easing many restrictions.

The updated government guidance provides advice on how to protect pupils and staff, with baseline measures to reduce the risk of transmission of coronavirus. The school will continue to adhere to the government guidelines regarding COVID-19 as outlined in the school's COVID-19 risk assessment (see website).

If any child or member of staff exhibits COVID-19 symptoms, that child or member of staff should stay at home and have a PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) test.

The link below provides more detail on this guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>.

Purpose of this Policy

The purpose of this policy is to raise awareness of the change in focus of government issued guidance for COVID-19 in the school setting and to provide clarity and reassurance. The Department of Education's stated objective is "... to maximise the number of children in face-to-face education and minimise any disruption, in a way that best manages the COVID-19 risk."

Identifying Symptoms of COVID-19 infection:

The most important symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of any of the following:

- **a new continuous cough**
- **a high temperature**
- **a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)**

If anyone has any of the symptoms above they should not come to school and should follow guidance to take a PCR test and [self-isolate at home](#).

Covid-19 can cause other symptoms including:

- aches and pains
 - sore throat
 - diarrhoea
 - conjunctivitis
 - headache
 - a rash on skin or discolouration of fingers or toes
- **These symptoms are less common. You only need to be tested if you also have at least one of the main symptoms.**

The safety of all our children, their extended families and our staff will continue to depend upon on us all acting responsibly, and we will consider these symptoms in the current context of Covid-19.

Government guidance for control measures:

Staff testing requirements. Staff in the Junior School should continue to test themselves using an LFD (lateral flow device) twice a week at home. They are also encouraged to take the opportunity to be fully vaccinated.

Those who test positive on an LFD should isolate, book a confirmatory PCR test by going to NHS 119 online <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> and continue to isolate if the result of the PCR is positive; in accordance with guidance given by NHS Test and Trace.

Close contacts of a positive case. Junior school children, irrespective of their vaccination status, and double vaccinated staff, **will not need to self-isolate** if they are identified by NHS Track and Trace as a close contact of a positive case. However, they will be strongly advised to take a PCR test and, if positive, will need to isolate.

Engaging with the NHS Test and Trace Process

Limiting the spread of COVID-19 infection will depend on staff, pupils, parents and carers engaging fully with the NHS Test and Trace process. This is how isolated infections can be prevented from escalating into larger outbreaks.

The following specific control measures will remain in place

- Occupied spaces will be kept well-ventilated.

- Regularly touched objects and surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected more often than usual using standard cleaning products.
- Encouraging pupils to wash their hands thoroughly, using soap and running water, with careful hand drying more often than usual. Hand sanitiser will also be available in all classrooms and throughout the school.
- Ensuring good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.
- Face coverings will continue to be used by adults in enclosed and crowded spaces where one comes into contact with people one does not normally meet. Parents and visitors should wear coverings whenever they enter any school buildings. Parents should bring coverings when coming to any indoor school event as well as when picking up from After School Care. Children using dedicated school transport will need to continue to wear face coverings.
- Staff or pupils must stay at home if they develop COVID-19 symptoms to avoid spreading infection to others.
- If staff or pupils develop coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms while at school they will be sent home.

Specific Actions if COVID-19 Symptoms Develop at School

- If anyone develops coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms while at school they will be sent home and advised to follow the [staying at home guidance](#).
- While a child is awaiting collection, they will be moved, to a room where they can be isolated behind a closed door, with appropriate adult supervision.
- If they need to go to the bathroom while waiting to be collected, they will use a separate bathroom. The bathroom will then be cleaned and disinfected using standard cleaning products before being used by anyone else.
- Any significant spillages of bodily fluids will be cleaned following the current First aid policy and government guidance on [cleaning in non-healthcare settings](#)
- Appropriate PPE will be worn by staff caring for the child while they await collection if a distance of 2 metres cannot be maintained.
- All children and staff are encouraged to access a test if they display symptoms of coronavirus by contacting NHS 119 online. <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-for-coronavirus/>

Communications

NHS Test and Trace are now leading the contact tracing process, rather than schools. Parents and staff should communicate directly with the Junior School Nurse regarding all medical concerns, instances of contact with NHS Test and Trace and PCR test results so that the school has a clear picture of any COVID-19 cases in our school community. Parents are requested to work with the school regarding any communications with other parents in instances of positive cases.

Management of school outbreaks

If the number of positive cases substantially increases extra measures may be required, as per the school's contingency/outbreak management planning. These measures will be decided through discussion with Public Health England.

Further Guidance and Information

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>.

Appendix 1

Guidance for first aiders (The following advice is taken from the Health and Safety Executive (HSE))

Try to assist a safe distance from the casualty as much as you can and minimise the time you share a breathing zone.

If they are capable, tell them to do things for you, but treating the casualty properly should be your first concern.

Remember the 3P model – preserve life, prevent worsening, promote recovery.

Preserve life: CPR

- Call 999 immediately – tell the call handler if the patient has any COVID-19 symptoms;
- Ask for help;
- Ask for AED;
- Before starting CPR, to minimise transmission risk, use a cloth or towel to cover the patient's mouth and nose, while still permitting breathing to restart successful resuscitation.
- If available use:
 - A fluid repellent surgical mask
 - Disposable gloves
 - Eye protection
 - Apron or other suitable covering

Only deliver CPR by chest compressions and use a defibrillator (AED) - do not do rescue breaths. *Unless they are a child, in which case the resuscitation council advice to perform rescue breaths as perceived risk of not doing is greater and may result in certain cardiac arrest and death of the child*

Prevent worsening, promote recovery: all other injuries or illness

- If you suspect a serious illness or injury, call 999 immediately – tell the call handler if the patient has any COVID-19 symptoms.
- If giving first aid to someone, you should use the recommended equipment listed above if it is available.
- You should minimise the time you share a breathing zone with the casualty and direct them to do things for you where possible.
- After delivering any first aid ensure you safely discard disposable items and clean reusable ones thoroughly.

- Wash your hand thoroughly with soap and water or an alcohol-based sanitiser as soon as possible.