



## COVID-19 Policy – March 2022

The school's Covid policy and risk assessment explain the measures that the school is taking to minimise the impact of COVID-19 by:

- identifying risks to the health of,
- ensuring the safety of,
- and prioritising the welfare of

members of the school community in association with the continued operation of the school after the full re-opening in September 2021 in accordance with Government guidance.

The school is following current government regulations for education establishments and will keep all measures under regular review. Our risk assessment and policy will be revisited regularly to ensure that we adapt and develop best practice in a changing environment and in response to the latest guidance and advice.

**Wearing of face coverings** - At the time of writing students and staff do not have to wear face masks in school. However, we understand that some students and staff may wish to continue to do so. The school supports LFL and advises students to wear face masks on public transport and to adhere to any regulations when on school trips.

**Positive Covid Test** - Any member of staff or student who tests positive for Covid is asked to isolate for 5 days before returning to school.

**Hand cleaning frequently and thoroughly** - We will promote thorough and frequent hand cleaning. All students and staff should thoroughly clean their hands - on arrival to school, when they return from breaks, when they change rooms, before and after eating and before and after using the bathroom. We will encourage thorough handwashing with soap and water wherever possible, as well as frequent and thorough use of hand sanitiser. Hand sanitiser stations have been positioned around the school; all staff and students should also have their own hand sanitiser.

**Promoting good respiratory hygiene** - We will ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach. All students and staff should have their own supply of tissues; we have made bins available around the school.

**Enhanced cleaning** - We have introduced enhanced cleaning procedures, including cleaning of frequently touched surfaces (door handles, light switches, ballet barres, desks etc) often, using standard products such as detergents and bleach. A cleaning schedule has been introduced that ensures more frequent cleaning of classrooms, studios and shared areas, including toilets.

**Minimising contact between individuals** - The school is still staggering lunch times and breaks to reduce contact. Staggered break and lunch times will enable staff to effectively distance in the Green Room during their breaks. We have made adaptations to the classroom including seating students at separate desks, all facing forward and removing unnecessary furniture. Equipment and resources are integral to education in schools. For individual and very frequently used equipment, such as pencils and pens, it is recommended that staff and students have their own items that are not shared. Classroom based resources, such as books and games, can be used and shared where necessary; these will be cleaned regularly, along with all frequently touched surfaces. As normal, we will be engaging with and facilitating our local immunisation providers, to provide immunisation programmes on site, ensuring these will be

delivered in keeping with the school's control measures. This includes the provision of Covid-19 vaccinations for our students

**Where necessary, wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)** - We have a good supply of appropriate personal protective equipment to be worn where necessary where a student or member of staff becomes ill at school, particularly if they are exhibiting any COVID-19 symptoms.

Policy written by	Senior management Team
Approval body	YDCA Trustees
Date revised	March 2022
Review Schedule	Ongoing
Next review	Ongoing