

BARKER'S LANE SCHOOL

COVID-19 HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY SUPPLEMENT

The purpose of this document is to support the Health and Safety Policy at Barker's Lane School.

The main aim of this policy is to protect the staff and children, whilst collaborating effectively to maintain and deliver education and learning on school premises during the COVID – 19 public health emergency.

In addition to the school's responsibilities, this will require all staff and, as far as possible, parents and children to contribute to the recovery process and to consider their own health and safety and that of others. This will be critical to enable everyone to be safe at Barker's Lane School.

The guiding principles are:

- the safety and wellbeing of children and staff;
- that reasonable controls will be identified by undertaking risk assessments to protect all children and staff;
- that effective monitoring arrangements will be undertaken to inform adjustments and changes to protect all children and staff;
- that National Guidelines and legislation will be complied with, whilst assessing the risk from the local infection rate: <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2020-05/unlocking-our-society-and-economy-continuing-the-conversation.pdf>

Infection Rate

The infection rate locally may be different from that of other regions. Barker's Lane School will comply with guidance from Public Health Wales and the Local Authority in relation to this, in order to establish further controls that may be necessary.

Routes of transmission and the reduction of exposure

The transmission of COVID-19 is thought to occur mainly through respiratory droplets generated by coughing and sneezing, and through contact with contaminated surfaces. The predominant modes of transmission are assumed to be droplet, airborne and contact.

There is a hierarchy of controls that, when implemented, create a safer system, where the risk of transmission of infection is substantially reduced. These include:

- Minimising contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school.
- Cleaning hands more often than usual - washing hands thoroughly for 20 seconds with warm running water and soap and drying them thoroughly.
- Ensuring good respiratory hygiene - promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.
- Cleaning frequently touched surfaces often using standard products, such as disinfectants.
- Minimising contact and mixing groups of children by altering, as much as possible, the

environment (such as classroom layout) and timetables (such as staggered break times).

- Modifying teaching approaches to keep a distance from each other and maintaining social distancing of 2m wherever practicably possible.
- Eliminating or reducing the need for shared equipment and resources including desks, chairs, stationary etc. If equipment has to be shared it should be for the duration of the day and cleaned before and after use.
- Introducing one way systems where these would support social distancing.
- Limiting the number of people in the building - only visitors essential to the maintenance of the building or pupil welfare / learning will be permitted in the building and all visits will be pre-arranged. Parents are not permitted to enter the school building. All messages for school staff from parents should be directed via email to mailbox@barkerslane-pri.wrexham.sch.uk, via messages through Seesaw or by telephone call between 8.30am-11.30am to the school office.

Infection controls

Any staff, children or parents who are feeling unwell (with non Covid-19 symptoms / displaying Covid-19 symptoms) must not attend / visit school.

Anyone displaying symptoms should stay at home for seven days and apply for a test. This is essential within the first five days that the symptoms are displayed. To book a test use <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test>

Anyone who lives with someone displaying symptoms but remains well should stay at home for 14 days from the day the first person became ill.

If symptoms develop whilst at school - staff showing symptoms will leave the building immediately. Children showing symptoms will be kept separate until they can be collected by a parent.

Where a child / staff member in a group has shown symptoms of having COVID-19, other children and staff in that group will be informed to self-isolate for 14 days. The individual's identity will be protected.

Once someone suspected, or confirmed or with symptoms has been identified, all areas where this person has been will be identified and kept clear. Additional cleaning and disinfection will be carried out before this area is put back into use in line with:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings>.

Fresh, clean clothes should be worn by children and staff each day.

Hands and wrists should be cleaned more often than usual - with warm running water and soap, drying them thoroughly, or with hand sanitiser, ensuring that all parts of the hands are covered.

The 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach should be used.

The mouth, nose and eyes should avoid being touched.

Surfaces should avoid being touched, whenever possible.

Frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned often during the day, using standard products, such as disinfectants.

Travel and access to the school site

Children and parents should attend the school on foot or by using a personal mode of transport in preference to public transport.

Children and parents should not car-share with other families.

Parents will be advised that physical distancing must be observed at drop off points with adequate space between other people / vehicles.

Gates for entry and exit will be clearly demarcated and communicated to parents. A one way system has been established for entering and exiting the yard. The top gate is the entrance gate and the middle gate is the exit gate.

All children must be brought to school and picked up by an adult.

Only one parent to drop off. Parents will be advised not to bring other children with them wherever possible.

Social distancing rules will be emphasised and communicated to parents; standing points are demarcated on the playground for a child to wait with their parent until called from the yard.

Routes from the yard to individual class entrances are demarcated. Children will be supervised by school staff from the yard to their classroom.

Staggered start times for different groups. Siblings have been grouped together to start at the same time where possible.

First Aid

If attending to any wounds etc. school staff will use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) at all times. Visors, face shields, gloves and aprons are available in each class.

Each class has its own first aid kit.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

PPE will be used and disposed of in accordance with guidelines, for first aid, intimate care and cleaning.

Fire Alarm / Fire Evacuation

Our weekly fire alarm test will be conducted as normal.

Children and staff will evacuate through the nearest available exit. Social distancing when evacuating

will be encouraged as far as is practicably possible.

Social distancing will occur at the fire assembly points for each group / class.

Sheltering / Lockdown

Each group / class will follow procedures outlined in the staff handbook for incidents which require sheltering. These are categorised according to threat level.

Hand sanitiser and face shields have been located in another area of school for the purpose of sheltering, in addition to usual class supplied.

Non-compliance with rules

All site rules have been communicated to all school employees, children, and parents.

Clear signage is displayed to reinforce site rules and Covid-19 guidance.

Children who do not follow age appropriate rules strictly will be given a maximum of two warnings then parents will be contacted to collect the pupil. (See Addendum to Good Behaviour Policy)

This information has been shared with staff, parents and pupils in the relevant handbooks. This policy will remain dynamic and under review, based on the latest guidance.