



BMS – Approach to Managing Covid-19 – April 2022

When the Government made the decision to re-open schools during summer term 2020, this was done with the aim of reducing transmission of Covid-19 to protect the NHS and save lives. Since then the circumstances have continued to change. The prevalence of Covid-19 has fluctuated and the Covid-19 vaccination/booster programme has supported the inoculation of the majority of the adult and child population in the UK. Since the start of April 2022 the Government guidance has moved to expecting individuals to monitor and manage their own Covid illnesses.

Since summer 2020 we have seen a significant relaxation of the guidelines that we have followed in Schools and this has allowed us to return to a “normal” school experience which has been vital for children’s education and wellbeing.

The risk to children themselves of becoming severely ill from Covid-19 continues to be very low and whilst it is not possible to ensure a totally risk-free environment, the Office of National Statistics’ analysis on coronavirus Covid-19 related deaths linked to occupations suggests that staff in educational settings tend not to be at any greater risk from the disease than many other occupations. There is no evidence that children transmit the disease any more than adults.

Covid-19 remains in the community, this means continuing to make daily judgments about how to balance minimising any risks from the virus by maximising control measures with providing a full educational experience for students. We will continue to be vigilant when it comes to our cleaning regime and will continue to encourage students and staff to take responsibility for their own health and hygiene.

We are well positioned to re-instate previous precautionary measures should the need arise but will only do so after receipt of updated Government advice or following dialogue with either Bedford Borough Council or Public Health England.

Communications will continue to be sent to parents and carers to let them know of the control measures that are in place and any changes that will be required from time to time.

Richard Pooley
Director of Operations
7 April 2022