

Covid Policy

Update Statement Sept 2023

The details below would be put back into place should Covid-19 once again take the country in a hold. Currently the school continues to follow all Government guidance and recommendations and will continue to do so in the future. If a child is off with Covid-19 for a short amount of time then this is treated like any other illness. No online lessons are now taught in this case. However, should the illness prolong the school will once again consider putting in place online lessons on an individual basis, as we would with any other illness.

There is no requirement to take a Covid test anymore but should a student test positive for Covid then this should be treated like any other illness and students should stay at home if they are unwell, but come to school if they feel well enough to do so.

Overarching Statement – September 2020 onwards

The policy below is designed to cover all policies, including those related to the EYFS, on the Nottingham High School Website, specifically relating to section on Covid- 19 following updates from ISI in September 2020.

The headings used relate to the section

Quality of education provided

Nottingham High School will be flexible around the curriculum where pupils have missed out during the COVID period, the school has considered whether we need to adjust the curriculum based on our assessments of pupils' learning and progress with a view to addressing gaps in knowledge and skills. As a school all subjects are as important as others and staff are striving to ensure the full curriculum is currently taught.

Relationships and sex education

Now that the school is fully open, as of Sept 2020, plans are in place for those students who cannot attend due to Covid – 19. Students can access lesson material using online platforms and join the lessons via a Meet function. Should the school need to close again temporarily, then the school will move immediately back to its remote learning model.

Following the lockdown in Spring/summer 2020/Spring 2021 the school continues to have plans in place to ensure all students make the required progress now they are back in school. Departments and staff are identifying and rectifying any gaps in knowledge for individual students.

Welfare, health and safety of pupils

Safeguarding

Given the current Covid – 19 situation, as a school we have reviewed our safeguarding guidance for the pandemic period to ensure we remain effective while the changed circumstances continue. As a school we have considered and implemented the following: -

- We have ensured our safeguarding arrangements cover the safety of pupils should online learning resume;
- the policy may need to incorporate any updated advice from the LA about local arrangements, for example, to cover staff shortages at the LA, such as temporary changes to contact details or referral thresholds;
- We have considered how students who are unable to return to school can be educated via online learning.

In addition, we acknowledge that *Safeguarding and remote education* advises that staff should use school email accounts and devices rather than personal accounts and this is our recommendation to our staff in our code of conduct.

Staff behaviour policy

The school is also aware that it needs to ensure we have enough cover for the DSL and DDSL roles. As a school we have a number of staff trained in these roles.

Health and safety

The school Risk assessment continues to include assessments based on Covid – 19. This is available to view on our website here: <https://nottinghamhigh.co.uk/policies/>

- The school has monitoring in place to ensure that measures are effective, working as planned, and updated in line with developments and changes to public health advice.
- Where we notice an outbreak, enhanced protective measures are put into place for the identified risk.
- We continue to encourage twice weekly testing at home for staff and students and distribute test kits to students to maintain this regime.

We continue to consider essential measures around the school: -

- a requirement that people who are ill stay at home
- robust hand and respiratory hygiene
- enhanced cleaning arrangements

ATTENDANCE REGISTER

From September 2020 we are aware that the attendance and registration requirements have reverted back to normal rules; all pupils should attend in the absence of a statutory reason. As a school we have systems in place to re-engage those students who stay away on account of anxiety about COVID-19.

Risk assessment

All our risk assessments continue to cover the risks associated with the Covid 19. The school is very aware that failure to assess and act to mitigate the main health and safety risks for pupils and staff on account of COVID-19 would have implications for both paragraphs 11 and 16.

Suitability of staff, supply staff, and proprietors

The school acknowledges that temporary changes have been made by the DBS to ID checking guidelines and by the government to processes for checking Right to Work to limit the need for face-to-face contact. These changes are no longer required and all vetting checks have been resumed to attendance in person at school.

Complaints

Due to COVID-19 we have reviewed the time periods in our policies during the period of the pandemic to ensure they have the required flexibility they may need as a consequence of disruption or staff absence.