




## COVID-19 Policy

## Grow Independent School

<b>Updated:</b>	March 2024
<b>Review date:</b>	March 2026
<b>Written by:</b>	Charlotte O'Brien
<b>Signed by:</b> S Hawthorne Headteacher	

## Introduction

This COVID-19 Policy outlines the procedures and measures that Grow Independent School will implement to minimize the risk of COVID-19 transmission and ensure the safety and well-being of students, staff, and visitors. This policy aligns with the guidelines provided by the UK Government and Public Health England.

### 1. General Principles

- Health and Safety Priority: The health and safety of our school community is our top priority.
- Compliance with Guidelines: Adherence to government and public health guidance.
- Flexibility and Adaptability: Preparedness to adapt measures based on evolving circumstances and advice.

### 2a. Preventive Measures during Covid 19 Outbreaks

#### Minimizing Contact and Mixing

1. Classroom Arrangements:
  - Desks will be arranged facing forward.
  - Students will remain in consistent groups ("bubbles") to reduce mixing.
  - Outdoor spaces will be utilized for learning when possible.
2. Staggered Timings:
  - Staggered start and finish times will be implemented to reduce crowding.
  - Breaks and lunchtimes will also be staggered.
3. Movement Around School:
  - One-way systems will be established in corridors.
  - Designated entry and exit points will be used to manage flow.

### 2b. Preventive Measures during all other times

#### B. Hygiene and Cleaning

1. Hand Hygiene:
  - Handwashing stations will be set up at entrances, classrooms, and key areas.
  - Hand sanitizers will be available in every classroom and common area.
2. Cleaning Protocols:
  - Enhanced cleaning of frequently touched surfaces such as door handles, desks, and equipment will occur multiple times a day.
  - The school will undergo regular deep cleaning.

### 3. Respiratory Hygiene:

- The "Catch it, bin it, kill it" approach for coughs and sneezes will be promoted.
- Tissues and bins will be provided in classrooms and common areas.

## C. Use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

### 1. Face Coverings:

- Face coverings can be used in communal areas and where social distancing is not possible.
- The school will provide face coverings for staff and students as needed.

### 2. Other PPE:

- Gloves and aprons will be used by staff for specific tasks such as cleaning and providing first aid.

## D. Health Monitoring and Reporting

### 1. Symptom Monitoring:

- Regular temperature checks for students and staff.
- Clear procedures for reporting symptoms and illness.

### 2. Response to Symptoms:

- An isolation room will be available for anyone displaying symptoms while at school.
- Immediate notification to parents/guardians for student pick-up.
- Follow-up with public health guidelines for testing and self-isolation.

## E. Ventilation

### 1. Natural Ventilation:

- Windows and doors will be kept open where possible to enhance airflow.

### 2. Mechanical Ventilation:

- Regular maintenance and servicing of ventilation systems will ensure they function effectively.

## F. Communication and Training

### 1. Staff Training:

- Regular training on COVID-19 protocols and the use of PPE.
- Updates on changes to guidelines and procedures.

### 2. Parent and Student Communication:

- Regular updates via email, newsletters, and the school website.
- Clear guidance on school policies and expectations.

### 3. Signage:

- Clear signage will be displayed around the school promoting hygiene, social distancing, and directional flow.

### 3. Emergency Procedures

#### 1. Outbreak Management:

- Coordination with local health authorities for outbreak response.
- Contingency plans for partial or full closure if required.

#### 2. Remote Learning:

- Preparedness for a switch to remote learning if necessary.
- Ensuring access to online resources and support for all students.

### 4. Review and Monitoring

- This policy will be reviewed regularly in line with updated government guidance and feedback from the school community.
- Ongoing monitoring of the effectiveness of implemented measures will be conducted, with adjustments made as necessary.

### 6. Approval

Headteacher Signature:



Date: 18/07/24

Governor/Board Member Signature: Alice Lee

Date: 18/07/24