



**THURLBY COMMUNITY PRIMARY ACADEMY
PARENTAL GUIDANCE- OCTOBER 2021**

This guidance (in line with guidance released by Lincolnshire County Council October 4th 2021) supports the decision-making and management of positive cases within our school setting. It includes:

- Measures to follow all of the time;
- Enhanced measures for multiple cases;
- How to establish whether cases are linked within our setting;
- How to deal with multiple clusters of linked cases within our setting;

We ask that you work with the school in informing us as soon as possible if you suspect that your child has symptoms or has a confirmed positive test. You can contact the school on: 01778 423311 or enquiries@thurlby.lincs.sch.uk.

Daily Routines and Best Practice



We ask that children wash their hands before attending school. On entry into school, they will be asked to wash their hands with soap. They will wash their hands after morning and lunch breaks and prior to eating their lunch. Children will sanitise their hands when leaving school.



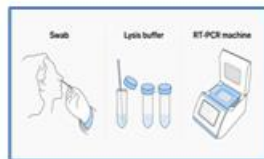
It is not compulsory to wear face coverings in school. Guidance will change in line with COVID cases e.g. wear coverings if numbers are on the rise prior to Parents' Evening.



We keep windows open where possible- including just top windows when the weather gets colder. During break and lunch times, all doors and windows will be open to let the air blow through. Where space and weather permits, activities will be conducted outdoors as much as possible.



We strongly advocate for those eligible to carry out twice weekly LFD testing. We strongly encourage all those who are eligible to be vaccinated.

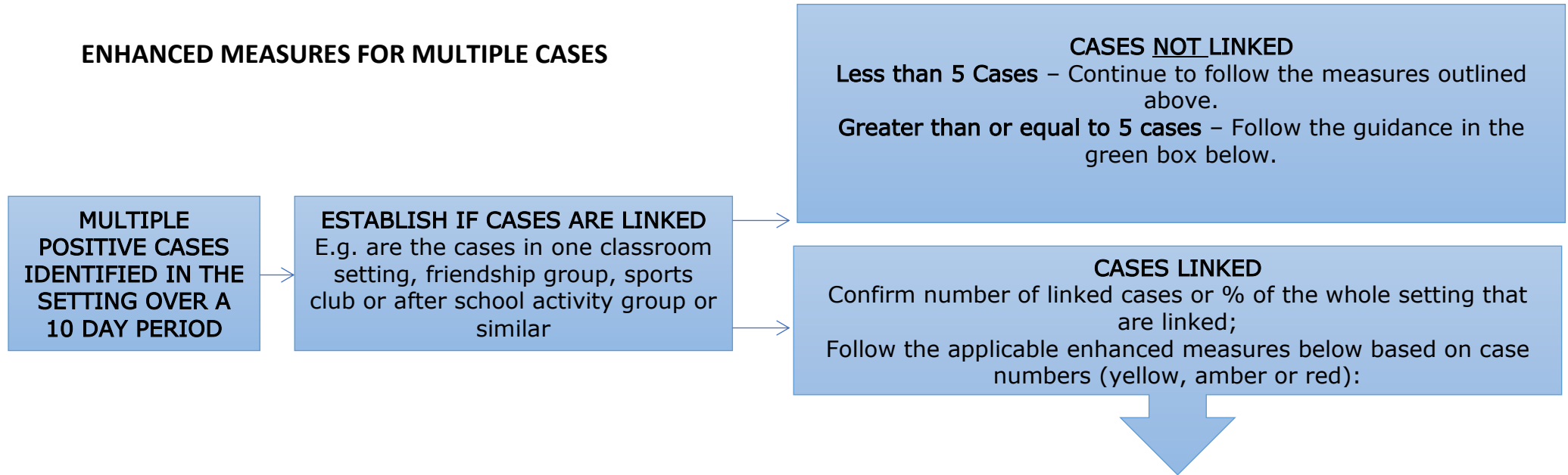


If children are symptomatic, they should stay at home and get a PCR test. If they test positive, then they are to isolate for 10 days. The government guidance states that children under the age of 18 years and 6 months **do not** have to isolate if in contact with someone who has tested positive and display no symptoms. Parents need to inform school of a positive case and when the child will return to school following isolation.



Regular cleaning routines in place. Additional cleaning implemented in response to COVID cases.

ENHANCED MEASURES FOR MULTIPLE CASES



GREEN: LESS THAN FIVE CASES THAT ARE LINKED IN A SETTING OVER A 10 DAY PERIOD OR MORE THAN FIVE CASES THAT ARE NOT LINKED IN A SETTING

Ensure all cases isolate at home for 10 days from first symptom or positive result whichever is the earliest.

Ask close contacts of a case to do a PCR test (they do not need to leave school to do this and do not need to isolate while waiting results if they have no symptoms) or an LFD if unable to access the PCR test.

Close contacts are those who have sat closest to the case (e.g. at the same table) within the classroom or indoors break area/staff room or staff who may have worked within 1 metre of the case for more than 1 minute.

Ask close contacts to stay at home if they have symptoms and get another PCR even if the first was negative.

Children who are 4 and under are advised not to do a PCR test unless the positive case was someone in their own household.

Ask close contacts to do a further LFD on day five of their close contact with the case (or as near as possible to day five).

YELLOW: 5 – 10 CASES OR 10% OF THE WHOLE SETTING THAT ARE LINKED IN THE SETTING OVER A 10 DAY PERIOD

- **If cases are linked across classroom settings**
 - Increase cleaning of common touch points such as toilets etc.
 - Where possible keep children within the same classroom setting to reduce mixing with other classes.
 - Where possible arrange seating so that children are sitting in pairs, facing one direction only and sit next to the same child.
 - Explore other potential areas of mixing and, where possible, introduce measures to prevent as much mixing as possible e.g. virtual assemblies.
- **If cases are linked within one classroom setting:**
 - Ask all children within the classroom setting to have a PCR test.
 - Ask all children to have a further LFD five days after their close contact.
 - Restrict where possible all mixing between this class and other classes including at break times.
 - Where possible restrict the affected class to one toilet block and increase cleaning.
 - Where possible create additional space between tables, ask children to sit in pairs and facing forwards; keep to the same seating arrangements.
 - For an agreed temporary period, consider restricting school trips or outings, open days or performances for this class or ask children/staff to provide a negative LFD beforehand particularly those which may be more risk such as indoor sports or singing clubs.
 - For an agreed temporary period, consider restricting access to after school clubs or activities.
 - Consider one off enhanced cleaning.
- **For cases linked within the same friendship/sporting/after school group**
 - Identify close contacts and ask them to have a PCR test
 - Ask all close contacts to have a further LFD five days after contact.
 - Ask all contacts within a friendship group to have a PCR test and a follow up LFD five days after close contact.
 - For indoor sports activities or singing clubs consider asking the whole team to have a PCR test (depending on the sport and nature of activity – for example high exertion activity within a confined space is a higher risk and therefore all club members should test) and a follow up LFD five days after close contact.

AMBER: 11 – 20 CASES OR 20% OF THE WHOLE SETTING THAT ARE LINKED IN THE SETTING OVER A 10 DAY PERIOD

At this stage, an outbreak control meeting maybe considered for discussions regarding potential measures. This would involve the school, Lincolnshire Health Protection Team, Public Health England and DfE (if required). In addition to previous measure in Green and Yellow above, additional measures could include:

- **If cases are linked across classroom settings**
 - Recommendation for testing across the affected classrooms.
 - Restricting mixing between affected classroom settings and other classes
 - Staggering break and lunch times to reduce mixing with other classes
- **If cases are linked within one classroom setting**
 - Whole class supervised testing (surge testing).
 - Temporary closure of classroom for home based online learning
- **If cases are linked within one friendship group/sports club**
 - Whole group/club testing
 - Temporary suspension of club/activity for two weeks in the first instance

RED: 21+ CASES OR 30% OR MORE OF THE WHOLE SETTING THAT ARE LINKED IN THE SETTING OVER A 10 DAY PERIOD

At this stage an outbreak control meeting will be called for discussions regarding potential additional measures. This would involve the school, Lincolnshire Health Protection Team, Public Health England and DfE (if required). In addition to previous measure in Green, Yellow, and Amber above, additional measures could include:

- Consider testing across the whole setting.
- Recommend restriction of trips, open days or performances.
- Recommend restricted access to school premises for after school clubs or activities.
- Recommend restriction on external visitors, including parents (unless for safeguarding reasons)

HOW TO ESTABLISH WHETHER CASES ARE LINKED WITHIN OUR SETTING

The following would not be considered as linked within our setting:

- Positive siblings or staff/children from the same family (though note that this should not be ignored/ discounted if there is a wider outbreak as it may be a potential route of transmission across classes/year groups).
- Pupils or staff who have tested positive but who have not been in school for at least seven days before onset of symptoms or date of positive test (whichever is earliest).
- Positive cases in different year groups or classes where there has been no close mixing between classes/year groups.

The following examples would be considered as linked within the setting (not an exhaustive list):

- Positive cases where cases have spent at least 1 minute less than 1 metre apart or at least 15 minutes 2 metres apart for example:
 - Sitting at the same table or mixing during class, break or lunch
 - Close 1:1 work with a child/teacher
 - Contact sports
 - Team indoor sports activity