

Alford Academy Covid Mitigations

As at 16 August 2021

Staff and pupils must adhere to relevant Aberdeenshire Council policies and follow the guidance in the current ECS Risk Assessment for Schools – V13 August 2021.

General

Staff and pupils must not enter the building if they or a household member have symptoms of covid or have been advised to self isolate by Test and Protect.

Twice weekly at home testing (LFD tests) encouraged for both staff and pupils S1-S6. We recommend Sunday and Wednesday evenings. Test kits will be provided to all staff and pupils with consent.

Alford Academy has a one way system in place.

Virtual meetings to continue to be norm, any essential visitors to school must be risk assessed and follow mitigations.

Staff and pupils are regularly reminded of covid mitigations via briefings, assemblies and notices.

School Transport

School transport will run as normal for pupils due to attend with usual pick up/drop off times. Pupils must sanitise their hands before entering the transport and wear a face covering during the entire journey.

Arrival on campus

Parents must not enter the campus building unless specifically requested. Any parent/visitor that does enter the building will be required to sign in and complete a Test and Protect form – available at Reception. All parents/visitors to wear face coverings and maintain 2m distance from others on site.

Staff and pupils must sanitise hands on entering and leaving the building and face coverings must be worn. All staff must wear Type IIR facemasks at all times apart from when eating/drinking including in classrooms. All pupils must wear a face covering when in the building apart from when eating/drinking including in classrooms (unless they have exemption). As an additional precaution, staff will make Type IIR Face masks available to pupils to wear and pupils are encouraged to replace these regularly particularly after break and lunchtime or should their face covering become wet or soiled. Staff and pupils are to follow advice on the same wearing of face coverings and their disposal.

Staff are to wear the Type IIR face masks supplied and be highly vigilant when in the staff room or resource areas and ensure physical distancing from all other staff is maintained. Although face coverings for under 12s no longer mandatory, younger pupils in S1 to be encouraged to follow the same mitigations as the rest of the school community.

Its important that physical distancing continues to be adhered to between adults and between adults and pupils. Government guidance has been amended to “at least 1m” in schools between adults and pupils and adults. However, for logistical reasons and in order to provide enhanced mitigation and lessen the risk of being identified as a close contact, we request that

wherever possible 2m physical distancing is maintained between adults and between adults and pupils.

Some physical distancing between pupils is to be maintained where possible.

Intervals and lunchtimes

Breaks and lunchtimes are staggered to assist with physical distancing.

Activities and learning

When in class pupils will be seated at least 2m apart from staff.

Bags to be placed on floor, not desks. Staff and pupils to avoid touching surfaces and equipment unless essential. Surfaces/equipment touched should be wiped down with covidguard or wipes.

Classrooms will be ventilated with doors and windows open. In addition between lessons and over interval/breaktimes, rooms to be “purged” with fresh air, fully opening all windows.

Good hygiene practices must be rigorously followed. Pupils to sanitise hands on entering classroom. Staff and pupils to follow good hand and cough/sneeze hygiene as per pupil briefing.

Hand sanitiser, tissues and cleaning supplies including covidguard are available in each classroom. Janitor can provide additional supplies. Rigorous hand sanitising, spraying and wiping of desks must take place as pupils move to their next classroom

Enhanced cleaning will take place including a midway clean of communal areas and touchpoints.

First Aid

If a pupil has suspected COVID symptoms teacher to call 1000 as per the first aid guidance cards which have been issued to staff. The pupil must wear a facemask. The pupil will be taken to the isolation room (A0-50) by a member of SLT until parents can collect. Any member of staff who is in contact with this pupil within the isolation room should be wearing a Type IIR mask, visor, apron and gloves. The janitor on duty will be alerted that a pupil has displayed COVID related symptoms and any cleaning required will be carried out by the janitorial team.

Covid Positive or Symptomatic

If a pupil or member of staff exhibits any symptoms of covid or has a positive LFD test they should arrange for a PCR test as soon as possible and advise the school of the result.

Where a positive covid test is identified, the school will follow the process as per the ECS flowchart.