System of Controls

The following gives more details about what would happen should one case or multiple cases of coronavirus be confirmed. In order to minimise the chances of this happening and react appropriately if infection does take place, schools must have a **system of controls** in place. They are grouped into 'prevention' and 'response to any infection' and are as follows:

Prevention

1) Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school.

2) Where recommended, use of face coverings in schools.

3) Clean hands thoroughly more often than usual.

4) Ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.

5) Introduce enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents and bleach.

6) Minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible.

7) Where necessary, wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).

Numbers 1 to 5 must be in place in all schools, all the time.

Number 6 must be properly considered and schools must put in place measures that suit their particular circumstances.

Number 7 applies in specific circumstances.

Response to any infection

8) Engage with the NHS Test and Trace process.

9) Manage confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) amongst the school community.

10) Contain any outbreak by following local health protection team advice.

Numbers 8 to 10 must be followed in every case where they are relevant.

Measures for Responding to Coronavirus Cases

If someone has symptoms, they should have a test and inform the school immediately of the results. The self-isolation period for those with symptoms and/or those who test positive has increased from 7 days to 10 days.

If there's a confirmed case of coronavirus, the school will contact the local health protection team. The team will carry out a rapid risk assessment to confirm who's been in close contact with the person when they were infectious, and make sure they are asked to self-isolate.

Close contact means:

- Direct close contact - face-to-face contact with an infected person for any length of time, within 1 metre, including:
    - Being coughed on
    - A face-to-face conversation, or
    - Unprotected physical contact (skin-to-skin)
- Proximity contacts - extended close contact (within 1 to 2 metres for more than 15 minutes) with an infected person
- Travelling in a small car with an infected person

We will keep a record of pupils and staff in each 'bubble', and any close contact that takes place between children and staff in different groups.

If there is a confirmed case of coronavirus within the school, names or details will not be shared unless it's essential for protecting others.

The Belham Primary School will engage with the **NHS Test and Trace** process.

If there's a possible outbreak

If there are 2 or more cases within 14 days, or an overall rise in sickness absence where coronavirus is suspected, the school will work with our local health protection team to decide if additional action is needed.