

# Secondary Partnership, Primary Partnership – 23/08/21



# Agenda

- School Reopening – September 21
  - City Position
  - Outbreak Management Plan
  - Risk Assessments
  - DfE



# City Position



# Key

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

what is being reported on PHE Situational Awareness Explorer where a denominator of 401k is used. The numbers are more lagged. Testing positivity rate and individuals tested are for the PHE SAR date shown – which



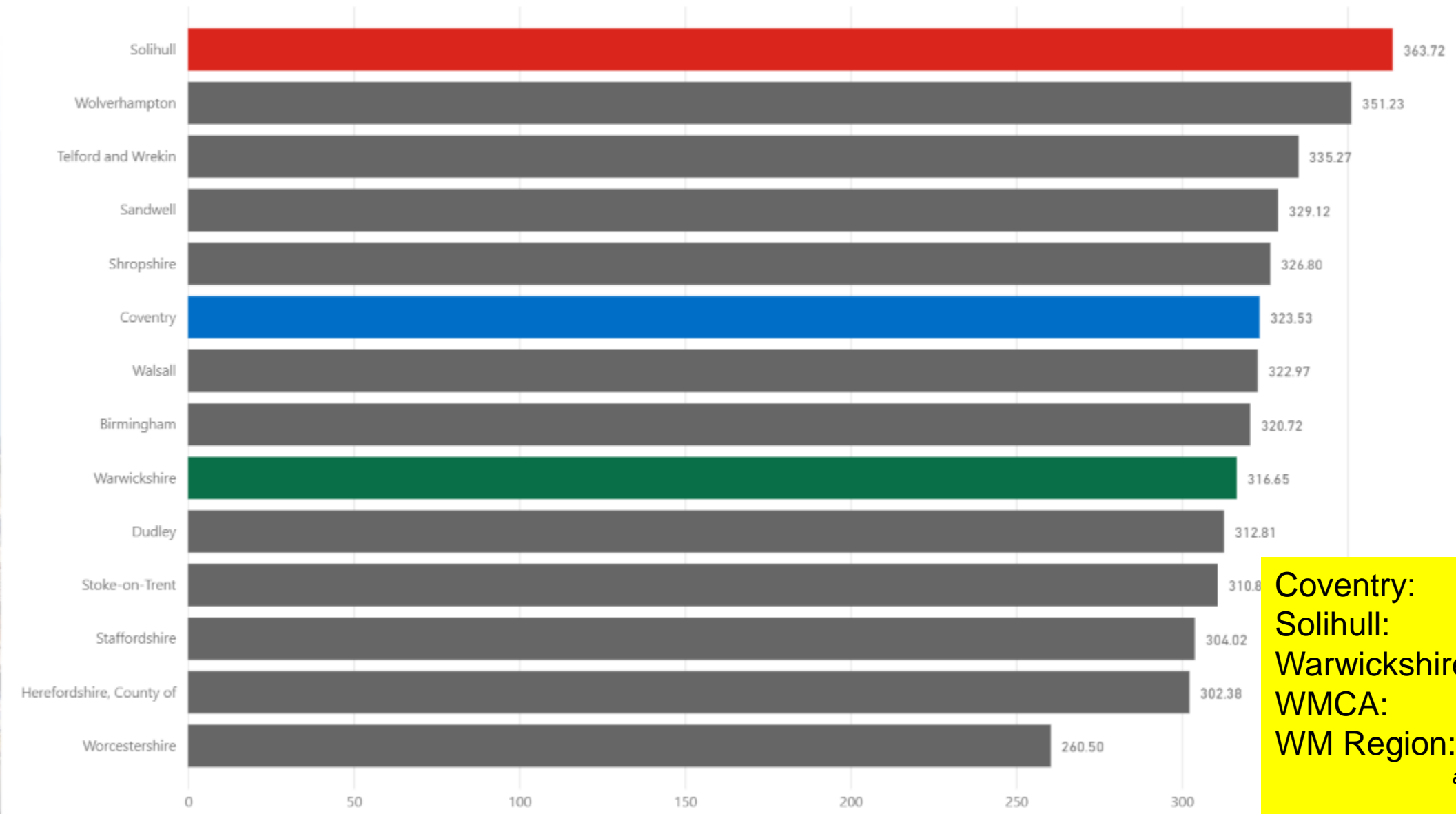
# 7-day rates per 100k West Midlands UTLAs – cases from 9 to 15 Aug (as of 19 August)

OFFICIAL

Rolling seven-day rates per 100,000

Choose a date

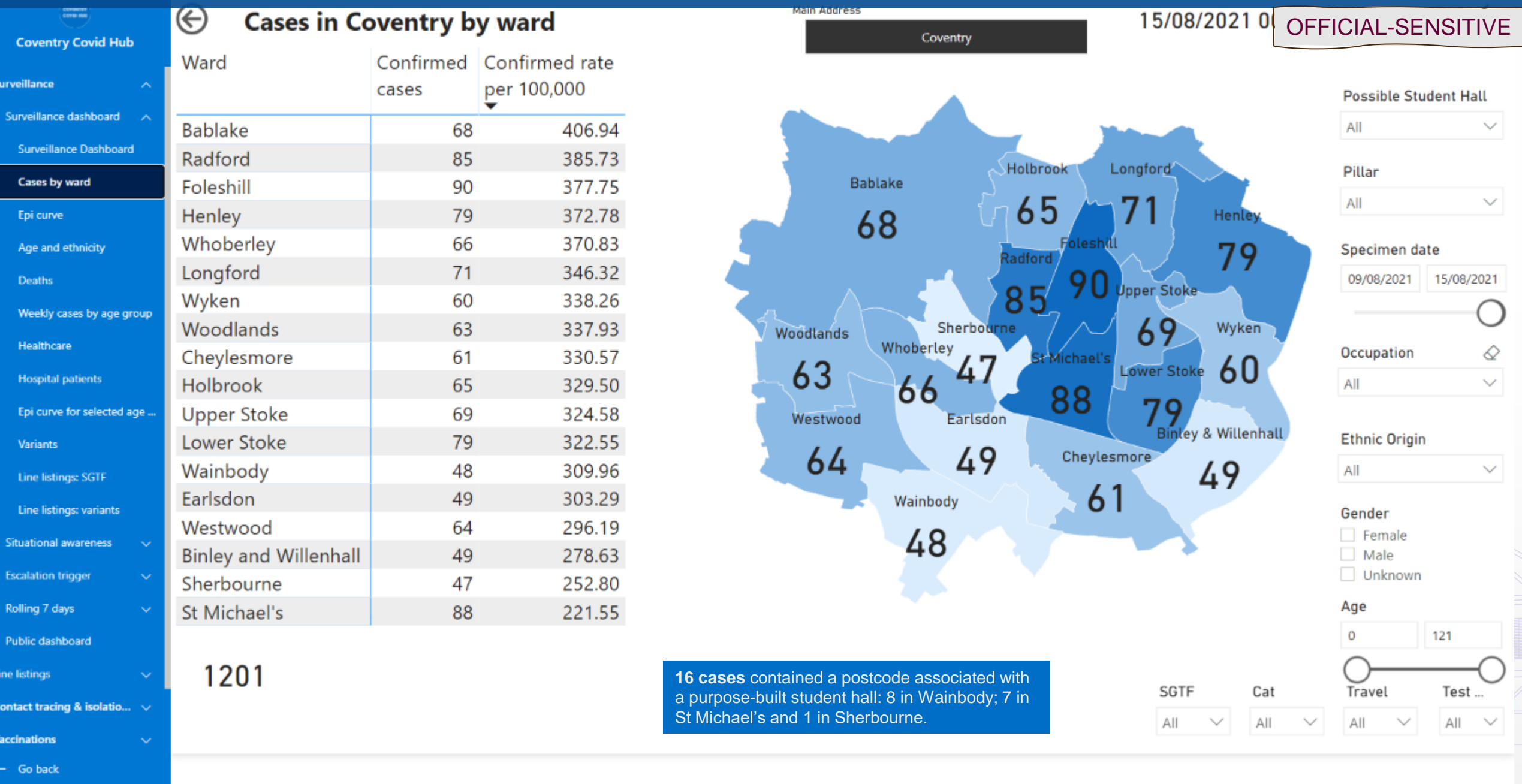
- ☐ 18 August 2021
- ☐ 17 August 2021
- ☐ 16 August 2021
- ☒ 15 August 2021
- ☐ 14 August 2021
- ☐ 13 August 2021
- ☐ 12 August 2021
- ☐ 11 August 2021
- ☐ 10 August 2021
- ☐ 09 August 2021
- ☐ 08 August 2021
- ☐ 07 August 2021
- ☐ 06 August 2021
- ☐ 05 August 2021
- ☐ 04 August 2021
- ☐ 03 August 2021
- ☐ 02 August 2021
- ☐ 01 August 2021
- ☐ 31 July 2021
- ☐ 30 July 2021
- ☐ 29 July 2021
- ☐ 28 July 2021



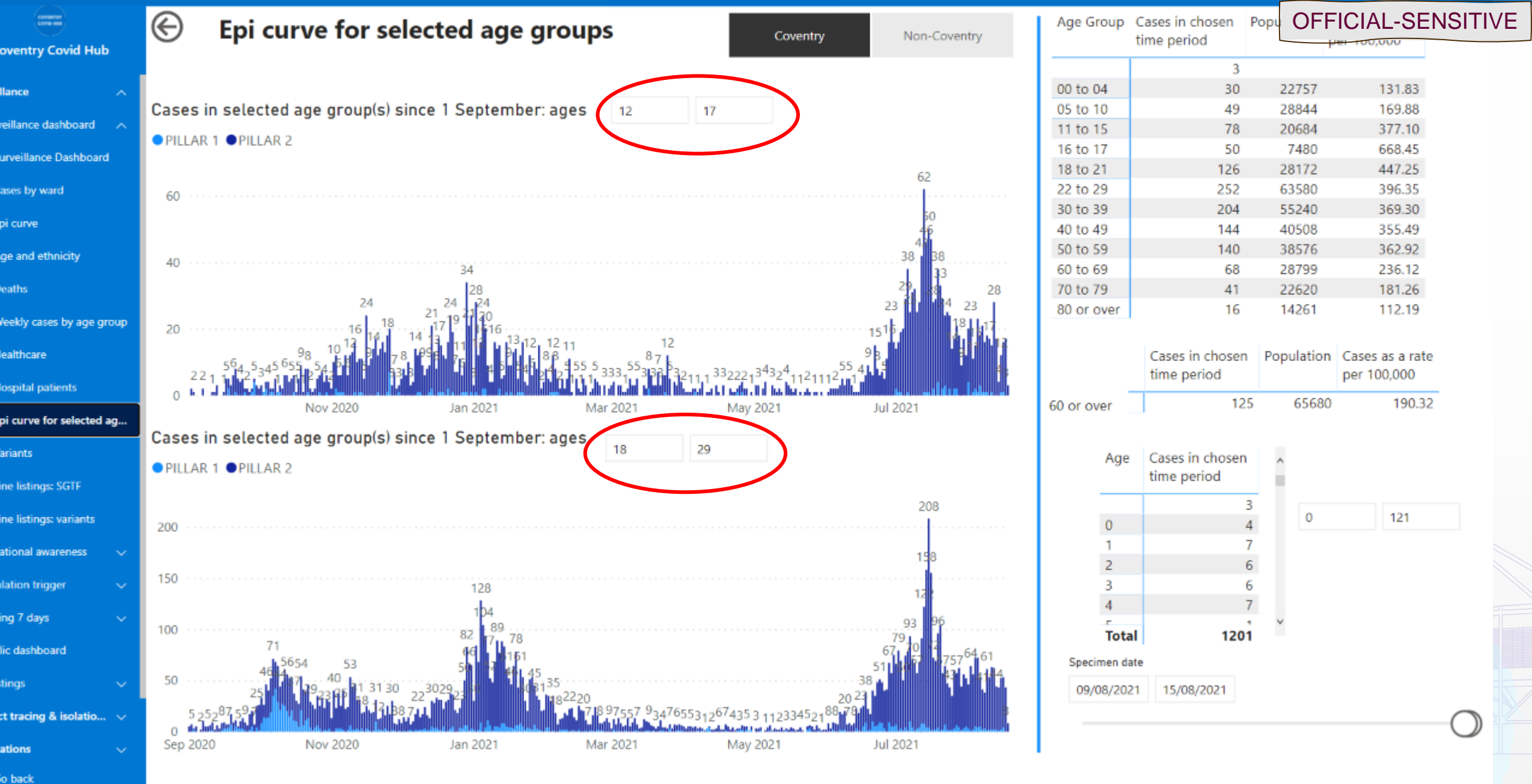
Coventry:	323.53	▲
Solihull:	363.72	▼
Warwickshire:	316.65	▲
WMCA:	327.29	▲
WM Region:	314.79	▲

arrows illustrate change from data reported on 16 Aug

# Positive cases by ward in Coventry – cases from 9 to 15 Aug (as of 19 August)



# Epi curve for selected age groups for cases from 9 to 15 Aug (as of 19 August)



# Outbreak Management Plan



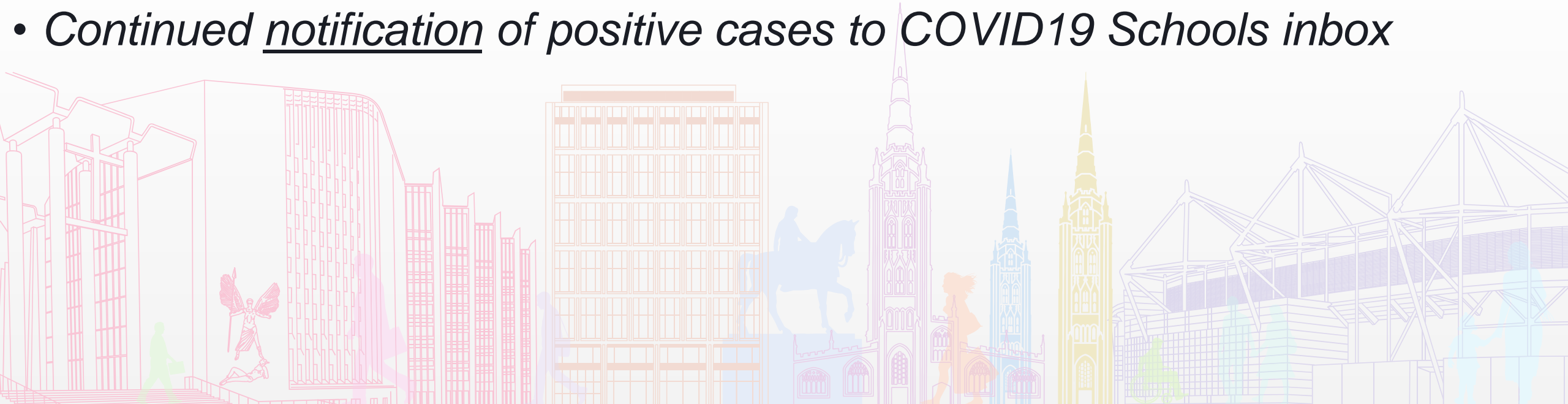
# Introduction

- Document put together by Education & Public Health using national guidance
  - includes DfE and wider
  - some continuing contradictions and practical considerations between guidance
  - Further DfE guidance was issued last week
- We continue to have a 'local position / implementation' for us to explore how we open schools safely throughout the Autumn term
- Includes a template that schools can adopt and use - this has been kept relatively general, as approach will be dependent on the local context
- Following slides set out the position and our expectations prior to, at the point of, and following initiation of Outbreak Management Plan (OMP)
- Draft guidance and template documents were made available to schools on Friday, but will be finalised following Partnership Meetings



# Local Implementation – Prior to trigger of OMP

- *We will continue to encourage schools that want to keep some mitigations/measures in place to minimise/prevent transmission of infection, such as consistent groupings/zoning, **staggered start and finish times**, minimising bringing parents onto site, use of face coverings.*
- *Continued log all pupils in the school who have tested positive for COVID-19 including dates for onset of symptoms (if relevant) and test dates, as well as any known links and exposures inside or outside of school*
- *Continued notification of positive cases to COVID19 Schools inbox*





# Local Implementation – Prior to trigger of OMP

- *In order to complement the approach by NHS Test & Trace...and to enable you retain control within your setting, we are advising:*
  - *Notification of parents*
  - *As a minimum ask class contacts and any lunch time, break time and before and after school contacts(e.g. school transport) to PCR\* and continue LFT testing (will not require interrogation of seating plans)*
  - *Staff contacts who have not had 2 vaccinations will still need to isolate*

*\*NHS Test and Trace should have been in contact with the positive case to ascertain some of the known close contacts and recommended any contacts to get a PCR test, dependent on age of pupil we would expect varying degrees of accuracy*



# OMP Proposed Triggers

- 5+ pupil cases within a year group within 5 days
- 10+ pupil cases across a school across a number of year groups within 5 days
- 5+ staffing cases, or fewer if impacting on the capacity of the school to operate

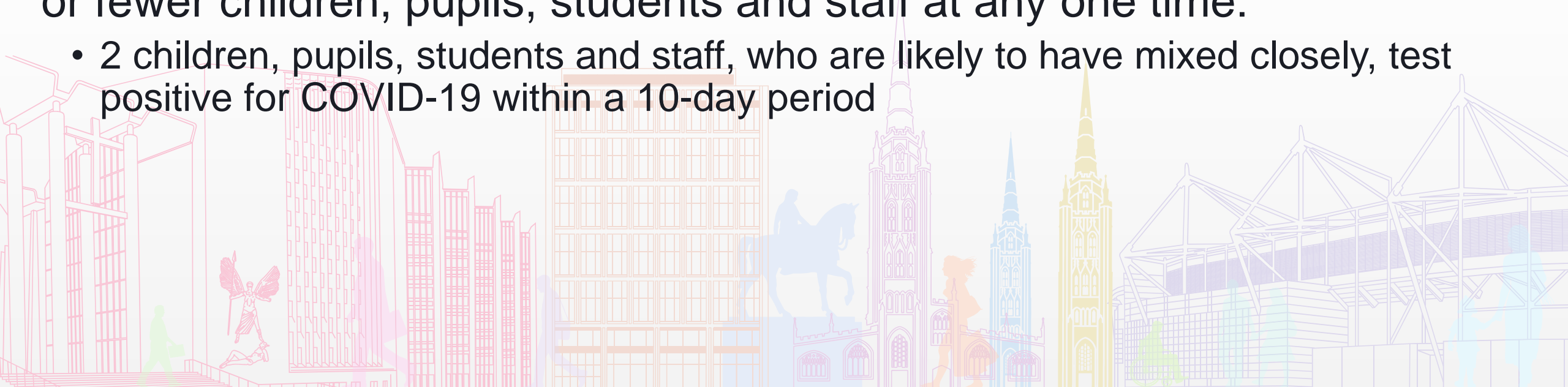
NB schools are still able to seek advice from the LA / Public Health prior to hitting these triggers particularly where they are concerned about linked cases

DfE Guidance issued: Next slide



# DfE Guidance issued 17/08: Proposed Triggers

- Whichever of these thresholds is reached first:
  - 5 children, pupils, students or staff, who are likely to have mixed closely, test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period; or
  - 10% of children, pupils, students or staff who are likely to have mixed closely test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period
- For special schools, residential settings, and settings that operate with 20 or fewer children, pupils, students and staff at any one time:
  - 2 children, pupils, students and staff, who are likely to have mixed closely, test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period



# OMP Process

- An initial discussion will be had with the school, and if necessary, an Incident Management Team (IMT) meeting will be arranged within 24 hours to include colleagues from the school, Local Authority, Public Health and regional HPTs (as appropriate)
- IMT- the positive cases will be reviewed, existing mitigations/ measures will be understood, and the general attendance and wellness of staff/pupils attending school will be discussed
- Where there is concern about levels of, and spread of, the infection additional measures can be recommended in line with the school's outbreak management plan (next slide)
- Where additional measures have been in place a further IMT will be held to jointly review the position before they are removed

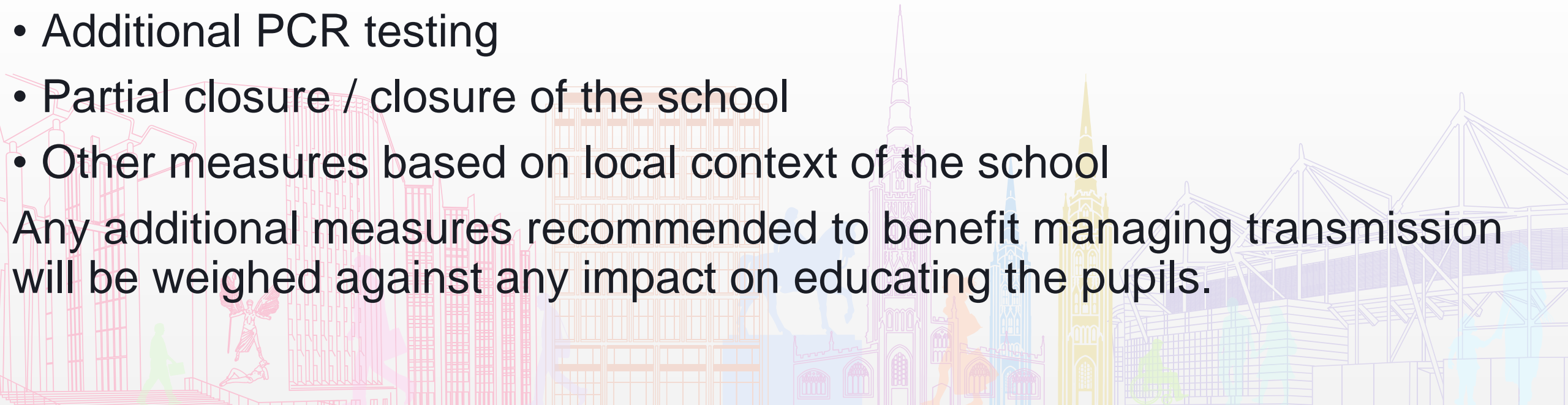


# Additional Measures/Mitigations

These may be one or more of the following

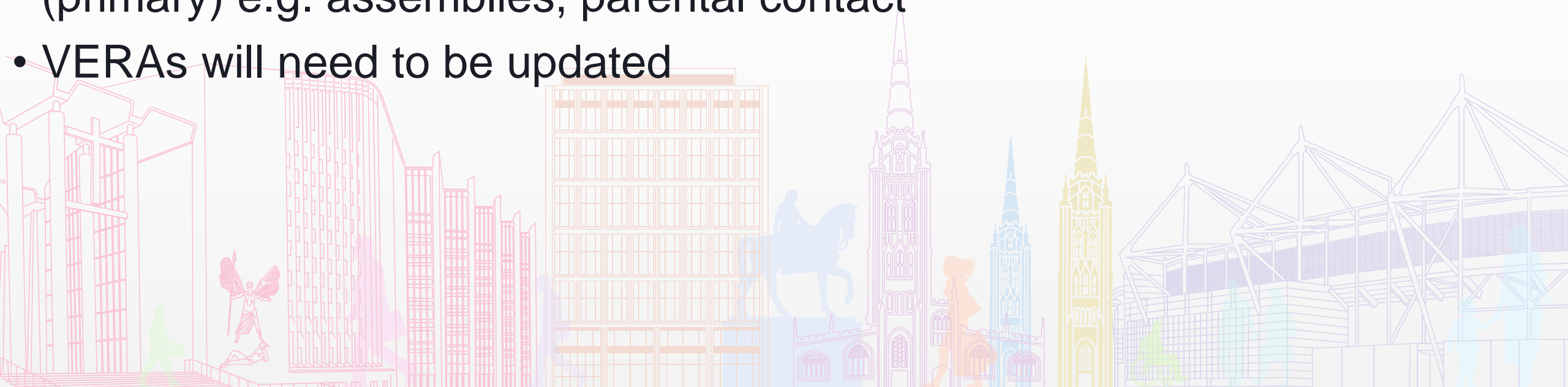
- Reintroduction of zoning/consistent groupings (not mentioned in new contingency plan but remains in operational guidance)
- Measures in relation to contact tracing and isolation
- Reintroduction of face coverings (communal areas, classrooms)
- Re-introduction of on-site LFT testing, or increased home testing
- Additional PCR testing
- Partial closure / closure of the school
- Other measures based on local context of the school

Any additional measures recommended to benefit managing transmission will be weighed against any impact on educating the pupils.



# Update

- Draft plan (including templates) sent out last Friday
- Letter from DPH, D E&S for parents outlining expectations – to include attendance
- Updated flowchart and template letters for advising PCR
- Seek further guidance from DfE re: household contacts
- Request for local recommendations to ensure consistent approach (primary) e.g. assemblies, parental contact
- VERAs will need to be updated





# Risk Assessments



## Update

- Draft RAs issued on Friday for schools to amend and adopt
- There is not a signing-off process for RAs, but contact us for further advice if required
- Some contradictions with Health & Safety guidance, have been raised with the DfE for further advice / direction
- Testing: concerns have been expressed about pupils willing or able to be tested, and the potential discriminatory impact on pupils with additional needs that could not self-administer a test or because of their learning difficulty, disability and/or medical condition would not be able to tolerate a test – possibility of a less invasive test being looked into
- Unions have set out national positions, which continue to focus on the importance of health and safety for their members, and are lobbying re ventilation
- The updated position for close contacts (from 16<sup>th</sup> August) does still set out some potential mitigations if not self-isolation and these will need to be considered

# DfE



# School Readiness

- Undertaking temperature checks to assess confidence in school readiness for wider re-opening, focusing specifically on general reopening, attendance, workforce and testing
- Questions have covered: opening, attendance of pupils and staff, onsite testing, outbreak plan, local infection rates and vaccination take-up
- Opportunity for schools to share any specific concerns / barriers with us
- Response to DfE required today
  - Re-opening
  - Attendance & approach
  - Workforce capacity & approach
  - Testing - ATS

