



Covid-19 Risk Assessment for Schools (Revised June 2021).

The technical name of the virus that causes COVID-19 is severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2, abbreviated as **SARS-CoV-2**

Whilst the Covid-19 virus can cause serious illness, especially for vulnerable adults with underlying health conditions evidence suggests that for the majority (particularly children and young people) they will experience a mild to moderate illness.

Whilst this is a complex and changing situation, there is enough known about the epidemiology of Covid-19 to provide a risk based approach to support staff in their roles.

DfE guidance in relation to the full opening of schools states that, given the improved position, the balance of risk is now overwhelmingly in favour of children returning to school. For the vast majority of children, the benefits of being back in school far outweigh the very low risk from coronavirus (COVID-19). The guidance explains the steps schools need to take to reduce risks still further. This risk assessment is based on that guidance (Schools coronavirus COVID-19 operational guidance – May 2021).

The assessment below has been developed based on the following principles:

- That we will act together to ensure the safety and reassurance of all staff, children & young people.
- PPE will be recommended according to evidence of **efficacy and assessment of clinical risk**.
- All efforts will be made to secure a reliable and adequate supply of suitable PPE.
- PPE does not negate the need for appropriate social distancing and hand and respiratory hygiene.
- It is necessary to remain alert and continue to recognise that all staff and pupils could be potentially carrying Covid-19.
- **Increased transmissibility of the new strain of the virus.**
- **Application of the published system of controls to individual school circumstances**

While coronavirus (COVID-19) remains in the community, this means making judgments at a school level about how to balance and minimise any risks from coronavirus (COVID-19) with providing a full educational experience for children and young people. Schools should use their existing resources to make arrangements to welcome all children back.



**COWBIT ST. MARY'S (ENDOWED)
CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL**



Covid-19 Risk Assessment for Re-opening Sept 2020 updated 7.9 25.9 3.1 2.3 16.6

Potential Hazard	Risk	Who might be harmed?	Minimum control measures to reduce risks to an acceptable level
Covid-19	Staff not having appropriate knowledge on virus, transmission and risk leading to increased transmission of covid-19	Employee, visitors, agency staff, member of the public and pupils	<p>All staff to keep themselves updated and follow the latest DfE. guidance for schools and national Public Health England/NHS guidelines via https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus</p> <p>https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/</p> <p>In particular staff should be familiar with the schools operational guidance – Schools coronavirus (Covid-19) operational guidance.</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/schools-coronavirus-covid-19-operational-guidance</p> <p>This was last updated May 21 2021</p> <p>Risk assessment shared with staff, govrs and parents. Posted on Dojo and school website.</p>
Covid-19	Contagious people coming into school leading to increased transmission of covid-19	Employee, visitors, agency staff, member of the public, Pupils	<p>To help ensure that the risk of virus spread is as low as possible, the school will inform staff and potential visitors, including customers and contractors, not to enter the school if they are displaying any symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) or if they should be self-isolating.</p> <p>Anyone showing the symptoms (new continuous cough and/or a high temperature or loss of taste and smell) should not come to work, arrange a test, and should follow the relevant government protocols at home and before coming back to work, this will last at least 10 days.</p> <p>Process for collecting a child due to illness or an existing appointment during the school day is established and shared. (pupil/staff member to stay in Conservatory room under distanced supervision until collected-if difficulties arise PPE to be worn and situation assessed) Action Cards provided to staff.</p>



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			<p>Anyone living in a household where someone is showing symptoms should stay at home for 10 days. If they then become ill then they must continue to isolate for 10 days from when they first showed their own symptoms.</p> <p>Work to be undertaken will be initially prioritised, based on its importance to the school and being able to assist with potential critical functions during the covid-19 outbreak. (Provision for the children of essential workers and vulnerable children). Schools should ensure that contact details of any visitors and contractors be maintained so that in the event of a positive case they can engage with Track and Trace.</p> <p>Schools should display a copy of the NHS QR code. For a link in how to create one for your establishment follow the link below). https://www.gov.uk/create-coronavirus-qr-poster</p> <p>Provide guidance to staff and older pupils on the use of the NHS Covid-19 app.</p>
Covid 19	Contact with those outside of 'group' thus possible transmission	Parents' Evening	<p>*We ask that pupils remain at home- however, if this isn't possible please ensure children stay with designated adult or family member whilst on school site and not to mix with others. *</p> <p>Visitors to wait outside of the school following social distance guidelines. Staff to acknowledge when visitors should enter based on allocated time slot. One way system of entering and exiting classrooms. Hands to be sanitised upon entering and exit.</p> <p>Morpurgo- Waiting on rear playground Enter through side fire door labelled entry Exit through side playground fire door.</p> <p>Dahl- Wait outside. Enter through side door marked entry. Exit through playground door and around the outside.</p> <p>Donaldson- Wait outside. Enter through main side door labelled entry. Exit through 'Tardis' door as directed by staff.</p> <p>When in the building or within 2 meters masks are to be worn. Unless proof of medical exemption. Room will be well ventilated. Staff to wipe down tables or desks. TOILET FACILITIES WILL BE FOR EMERGENCY USE ONLY.</p>



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<p>Poor hand & respiratory hygiene</p>	<p>Poor hand & respiratory hygiene leading to increased transmission of covid-19</p>	<p>Employee, visitors, agency staff, member of the public, Pupils</p>	<p>Follow Hand Washing protocol at appendix 1 below https://www.who.int/gpsc/clean_hands_protection/en/</p> <p>Soap and water, and regular hand washing for at least 20 seconds, is the best way of staying safe. Hand washing with soap employs mechanical action that loosens bacteria and viruses from the skin, rinsing them into the drain. Drying hands afterwards makes the skin less hospitable to the virus. Hand sanitiser can be effective if soap is not available, or the situation makes using soap less feasible (for example, when outside), but using hand sanitiser provides none of the virus-destroying friction that rubbing your hands together and rinsing with water provides.</p> <p>Staff, visitors and pupils should be reminded to wash their hands for 20 seconds more frequently than normal, including on arrival at the setting, breaks, before and after eating, and after sneezing or coughing.</p> <p>Coughs and sneezes to be caught in tissues. Bins for tissues should be emptied throughout the day. Staff to empty bin bags. Red-Toilets Yellow- Tissues Green-Recycling Blue-General</p>
<p>Surfaces contaminated with Covid-19</p>	<p>Increased transmission of covid-19 via surface – face contact</p>		<p>Follow government guidelines as follows: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings</p> <p>Checklist of cleaning has been created and is used to ensure that all frequently used objects and items are cleaned to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Door handles • Desks, table tops • Toys • Teaching equipment/resources • Bannisters • Light switches • Books • Toilets • Sinks



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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of disposable cloths-Spray cloths with 1:50 Screen
When essential travel in a vehicle is required	Sharing a vehicle where social distancing is not possible leading to increased transmission of covid-19	Drivers, Pupils and accompanying staff	<p>When having to travel for business related please only travel when this is essential.</p> <p>When using a private vehicle to make a journey that is essential, cars should only be shared by members of the same household. Those who normally share a car with people who are not members of their own household for a journey that is essential, e.g. getting to work, should consider alternatives such as walking, cycling and public transport where you maintain a distance of 2 metres from others.</p> <p>Where using a car is essential involving two or more people, it is recommended that two or more cars are used rather than staff travelling together in the same vehicle. Staff where possible should use their own vehicle</p> <p>Staff should only share a vehicle with a pupil as an absolute last resort. (e.g. Emergency response). If you have to share the vehicle with another staff member – remember to wipe down the car after the visit has taken place e/g steering wheel, handbrake, door handles etc with an antibacterial wipe (dispose of the wipes by double bagging) and open windows.</p>
Managing risk of an individual displays symptoms	Proximity to a person displaying covid-19 symptoms leading to increased transmission of covid-19	Employee, pupils, agency staff, member of the public	<p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19</p> <p>Identified room has been located(Conservatory) enabling the contagion be contained, if required.</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19</p> <p>Identified room has been located enabling the contagion be contained, if required.</p> <p>If someone becomes unwell and starts to display the main symptoms of Covid-19, a new continuous cough, a high temperature or a loss of taste or smell in an education</p>



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			<p>setting they must be sent home, advised to arrange a test and self isolate. Detailed advice for managing confirmed cases of Covid -19 amongst the school community is provided on pages 25 – 29 of the schools coronavirus operational guidance. Testing is now available to children including the under five's.</p> <p>The DfE helpline on 0800 046 8687 should be informed and advice sought, in cases of confirmed transmission. Where multiple cases are identified within school advice should be sought from PHE and local Health Protection teams.</p> <p>Where transmission of Covid-19 is thought to have taken place as a result of work place contact this becomes a notifiable incident to the HSE under RIDDOR</p> <p>If an affected person is awaiting collection, they should be moved, if possible, to the conservatory. If they are a child, depending on the age of the child appropriate adult supervision may be required. Ideally, a window should be opened for ventilation. If it is not possible to isolate them, move them to an area, which is at least 2 metres away from other people. (Move whole class outside if person is not capable of moving.)</p> <p>If they need to go to the bathroom while waiting to be collected, they should use a separate bathroom if possible. The bathroom should be cleaned and disinfected using standard cleaning products before being used by anyone else.</p> <p>Wider testing is now available for anyone showing symptoms over the age of five years. Parents are to ring 111/119 and inform advisor that their child(ren) has been sent home from school for suspected symptoms. The parent should email the school with the advisors response. Mr Johnson/Mrs Drew will ring and inform DfE/PHT for advise in regards to when the pupil should return to school.</p>
Covid 19	Increased vulnerability to illness	BAME Children and staff	<p>Identify all children and staff in school who may be considered as part of this community. Ensure that staff supporting a pod or bubble are aware of the elevated risk to health.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss concerns with parents or staff



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			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure all those identified have the opportunity to share concerns• Ensure adequate PPE is always available for staff use,• Ensure that information shared and updated by the DfE and https://bameednetwork.com is reflected in revisions of this risk assessment.• Conduct specific risk assessments for Clinically vulnerable staff and young and expectant mothers. – UK govt guidance, expectant mothers should work from home in the third trimester or at point in getatation if have underlying health conditions. If before 28 weeks strict social distancing should be observed.
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Appendix 1: Clean hands protect against infection (WHO protocol)

Protect yourself

- Clean your hands regularly.
- Wash your hands with soap and water, and dry them thoroughly.
- Use alcohol-based handrub if you don't have immediate access to soap and water
- How do I wash my hands properly? Washing your hands properly takes about as long as singing "Happy Birthday" twice, using the



images below:



i.	Handwashing Protocol	Attached at appendix 1 above https://www.who.int/qpsc/clean_hands_protection/en/
ii	Respiratory hygiene protocol	This means covering your mouth and nose with your bent elbow or tissue when you cough or sneeze. Then dispose of the used tissue immediately. https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus2019/advice-for-public
iii	Momentary contact	Relates to ad hoc interventions that may create proximity to bodily fluid – e.g. a driver putting a seatbelt onto a client.
iv	Sessional use	Surgical facemask can be used multiple times and need not be disposed of until wet, damaged or uncomfortable. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirusinfection-prevention-and-control/covid-19-personal-protective-equipment#section-6
v	Intimate care	Is defined as a role which is personally supporting the client to bathe, wash, feed etc. where there may be close proximity to bodily fluids.
vi	Donning and doffing	Refers to the correct method by which PPE should be put on and taken off.. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-personalprotective-equipment-use-for-non-aerosol-generating-procedures https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-GncQ_ed-9w
vii	Disposal of PPE	PPE should be bagged and disposed of in a lidded bin followed by close adherence to hand washing protocol.
viii	Shielded person	Definition at appendix 3.
ix	Single use	Refers to disposal of PPE after each client interaction.
x	PHE Covid-19 IPC	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirusinfection-prevention-and-control?utm_source=7c916e5e-b965-44d0-



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Appendix 3

People falling into this **extremely vulnerable group** include:

1. Solid organ transplant recipients.
2. People with specific cancers:
 - people with cancer who are undergoing active chemotherapy
 - people with lung cancer who are undergoing radical radiotherapy
 - people with cancers of the blood or bone marrow such as leukaemia, lymphoma or myeloma who are at any stage of treatment
 - people having immunotherapy or other continuing antibody treatments for cancer □ people having other targeted cancer treatments which can affect the immune system, such as protein kinase inhibitors or PARP inhibitors
 - people who have had bone marrow or stem cell transplants in the last 6 months, or who are still taking immunosuppression drugs
3. People with severe respiratory conditions including all cystic fibrosis, severe asthma and severe COPD.
4. People with rare diseases and inborn errors of metabolism that significantly increase the risk of infections (such as SCID, homozygous sickle cell).
5. People on immunosuppression therapies sufficient to significantly increase risk of infection.
6. Women who are pregnant with significant heart disease, congenital or acquired.

NB: Patients should have received notification directly from the government and or their GP practice about whether they fall into this group and how to reduce their risk.



Appendix 4

Where staff or children cannot maintain distancing, particularly with younger children in primary schools, the risk is reduced by keeping pupils in the class-sized groups -Where possible the children will work in their main classroom with class teacher and teaching assistant. For specialist teaching such as Phonics and Child Initiated Learning, the children will only move within their 'bubble.'

Whatever the size of the group, they are kept apart from other groups and older children are encouraged to keep their distance within their groups

The 'BUBBLES' will have staggered playtimes and lunchtimes to ensure that they are kept apart. Where possible, children are encouraged to keep their distance within their 'bubble.'

It is recognised that younger children will not be able to maintain social distancing, and it is acceptable for them not to distance within their group.

Pupil contacts will be reduced as they are working in defined bubbles. The systems of controls in place will aid in prevention of transmission i.e. requirement of people who are ill to stay at home, robust and respiratory hygiene, enhanced cleaning arrangements.

Staff room- Apple Room for eating- 4 staff maximum. Kettles, microwaves in cupboards or kitchen areas not to be left unattended. Hot drinks in insulated safety mugs. Staff bring own supplies. Clean areas.

Dahl cloakroom Corridor- small group work and lunch area for staff. This will allow LR/BJ to work with small phonics group without bubbles crossing into other 'bubbles' and will reduce the mixing of staff bubbles. Access to the fire door is limited but not blocked. Other fire exits are near. The side door is propped open for ventilation and the green screen to provide barrier between Dahl pupils and pupils whom are working.

Where possible adults maintain a 2 metre distance from each other and from children.

Adults avoid close face to face contact and limit time spent within 1 metre of pupils to less than 15 minutes duration. If working closely with pupils for more than 15 minutes indoors staff are to use visors and/or masks as a precaution. When moving around the school masks/visors are to be worn by staff members.

Staff are not to mix with other adults outside their bubbles when indoors. If this is necessary, ensure 2metres distance, a mask is worn and in a well-ventilated area for a minimal amount of time.(no more than 15mins.) Use of MicroSoft Teams for meetings etc.



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Necessary visitors such as inspectors, consultants, governors, workers and etc., are to wear face coverings and maintain social distance and follow staff guidelines as above. (Walk-throughs are permitted from a distance but not to mix within 2m of pupils. Ex: view from doorway) If work to be done arrange when pupils are out of the room.

Appendix 5 –

Keeping areas wiped down is a whole staff responsibility. Within reasonable asks as per advice from HR.