

SCHOOLS COVID RISK ASSESSMENT

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| Activities Covered by this Assessment | Covid19 Schools operational risk assessment V10 | | |
| Site Address / Location | All OAK MAT Schools | Department / Service / Team | |

This risk assessment is for guidance only and must be adapted to include any further hazards and subsequent control measures. It is intended for activities within and connected to the school premises. Once completed, please ensure initial risk ratings are added.

It is a legal requirement that **schools review and update their risk assessments** (building on the learning to date and the practices they have already developed), to consider the removal of restrictions and control measures in line with the roadmap out of the pandemic. Settings should also review and update their wider risk assessments and consider the need for relevant revised controls in respect of their conventional risk profile considering the implications of coronavirus (COVID-19). Schools should ensure that they implement sensible and proportionate control measures which follow the health and safety hierarchy of controls to reduce the risk to the lowest reasonably practicable level.

Schools may wish to retain previous versions of risk assessments as the DfE have indicated that schools may be asked to reinstate controls in the event of a local outbreak. These reinstatements are envisaged to be of short duration but may mean that there are frequent changes required. All reinstatements should be on the advice of public health (PH) and schools should tailor any risk assessment reviews to PH advice.

This risk assessment template is designed to address the Covid19 controls during the normal day to day operation of a school.

Operational guidance. Please refer to:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/schools-covid-19-operational-guidance>

From 28/11/2021

Close contacts in schools are now identified by NHS Test and Trace and education settings are not expected to undertake contact tracing.

As with positive cases in any other setting, NHS Test and Trace will work with the positive case and/or their parent to identify close contacts. All individuals who have been identified as a close contact of a suspected or confirmed case of the Omicron variant of COVID-19, irrespective of vaccination status and age, will be contacted directly and required to self-isolate immediately and asked to book a PCR test. They will be informed by the local health protection team or NHS Test and Trace if they fall into this category and provided details about self-isolation. Further actions for educational settings may be advised by a local Incident Management Team (IMT) investigating a suspected or confirmed case of the **Omicron variant** of COVID-19.

From 16th August:

- Close contacts of a confirmed case under 18 (18yrs + 4 months) will no longer be required to self-isolate. However, they will be required to engage with test and trace and take a PCR test.

Schools should continue to:

- Exercise good hand hygiene.
- Exercise good respiratory hygiene, catch it, bin it, kill it principles.
- Use 'enhanced cleaning' regimes, particularly on frequently touched surfaces (minimum twice a day is suggested).
- Maintain good ventilation in occupied parts of the school, balancing ventilation with thermal comfort.
- Use PPE where appropriate to their setting or activity ([link](#)).
- Have systems in place to encourage all who have symptoms of covid to self-isolate (including household siblings), engage with test and trace and follow PH advice.
- Engage with testing 3 days prior to the start of the autumn term. (to be reviewed Sept 2021)

Outbreak Management:

Schools will be required to have an Outbreak Management Plan for Covid 19 – a template will be available from PHE

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection#exempt>

Schools will no longer have to perform their own track and trace. This will be carried out by NHS.

PPE:

Additional PPE for coronavirus (COVID-19) is only required in a very limited number of scenarios, for example, when:

- a pupil becomes ill with coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, and only then if a 1+ metre distance cannot be maintained
- performing aerosol generating procedures (AGPs)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safe-working-in-education-childcare-and-childrens-social-care/the-use-of-personal-protective-equipment-ppe-in-education-childcare-and-childrens-social-care-settings-including-for-aerosol-generating-procedure>

Face Coverings:

Face coverings will no longer be recommended for pupils in classrooms or communal areas in all schools. Face coverings will also no longer be recommended for staff in classrooms.

The reintroduction of face coverings for pupils, students or staff may be advised for a temporary period in response to localised outbreaks, including variants of concern. In all cases, any educational drawbacks should be balanced with the benefits of managing transmission. The Local Action Committee structure (bronze/silver/gold) should be used in such circumstances to re-introduce the use of face coverings. Immediate outbreak response (at the level of individual settings or a cluster of settings) remains for **local directors of public health** to advise on.

Domestic residential educational visits:

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Any domestic and international residential educational visits must be conducted in line with relevant COVID-19 guidance and regulations in place at that time and for the country you are visiting. For international trips the foreign and commonwealth office (FCO) should be consulted before any trip is considered.

For international visits, schools will need to be mindful of the restrictions still in place regarding the red, amber and green list and consider that for amber countries there may be requirements for all participants to quarantine or self-isolate upon return.

Schools should also check their insurance status for short notice cancellation.

For guidance refer to gov.uk or <https://oeapng.info/>

| Hazard (Something with a potential to cause harm) | Who might be Harmed & How? | Existing Controls (Consider Hierarchy of Control) | Initial Risk Rating (S x L) | | | Further Controls Required (Consider Hierarchy of Control) | Final Risk Rating (S x L) | | | Action Required | | |
|--|---|--|--------------------------------|------------|-------------|--|------------------------------|------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------|
| | | | Severity | Likelihood | Risk Rating | | Severity | Likelihood | Risk Rating | Who (Initial) | Date By: (/--/--) | Done ? |
| Coming into contact with individuals who are unwell | Staff, pupils, visitors and contractors. Reduced infection control which may result in | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff, pupils, visitors and contractors do not come into the school if they have COVID19 symptoms or have tested positive in the last 10 days. Anyone developing COVID19 symptoms is sent home. | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow advice from PH concerning return to school. | | | | | | |

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| | spread of COVID19 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Persons who have symptoms will isolate for at least 10 days and will not be in school. | | | | | | | | |
| A pupil shows symptoms of COVID19 whilst in school | Staff, pupils, visitors and contractors. Reduced infection control which may result in spread of COVID19 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A pupil awaiting to be collected, is moved, if possible, to a room where they can be isolated behind a closed door (<i>depending on the age and needs of the pupil</i>) with appropriate adult supervision if required. STATE Windows are opened for ventilation. PPE is worn by staff caring for the pupil while they await collection if a distance of 1+ metres cannot be maintained. The area around the pupil with symptoms is cleaned and disinfected after they have left. (See cleaning hazard) Everyone washes their hands thoroughly for 20 seconds with soap and running water or use hand sanitiser after any contact with someone who is unwell. | | | | | | | | |
| Use of public transport/school buses | Staff, pupils, parents/guardian, visitors and contractors. Reduced infection | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils and staff are encouraged to cycle or walk to work. Communicate information to parents and staff where appropriate. Pupils clean their hands before | | | | | | | | |

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| | control which may result in spread of COVID19 | <p>boarding transport and again on disembarking.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional cleaning of vehicles is put in place, touch points in school owned buses / minibuses are cleaned after each journey. • Fresh air (from outside the vehicle) through ventilation, is maximised through opening windows and ceiling vents. • Pupils have been informed not board home to school transport if they, or a member of their household, has had a positive test result or has symptoms of coronavirus (COVID19). | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Visitors to site | <p>Staff, pupils, parents/guardian, visitors and contractors.</p> <p>Reduced infection control which may result in spread of COVID19</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitors to site should be kept to a minimum, appointments preferred so that measures are in place. • Visitors are asked if they have any symptoms of COVID19 or have had contact with anyone who has symptoms of COVID19, before they arrive on site. | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Carrying out 1st aid | <p>First Aider</p> <p>Person being treated by the first aider.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A first aider should not be administering first aid treatment to a person who has the symptoms of COVID-19 unless life threatening condition and using St | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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| | <p>(Carrying out 1st aid may require the 1+mtr social distancing rule to be broken)</p> <p>This activity requires the 1+mtr social distancing rule to be broken. This could lead to either person involved in becoming infected with COVID-19 through close contact with an asymptomatic carrier, transmitting the virus through bodily fluids or respiratory droplets entering the persons eyes, nose or mouth.</p> | <p>John’s ambulance guidance (link at end of document). Isolation care can be given.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first aider will wash their hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water before donning gloves. • Nitrile Gloves conforming BSEN455 will be worn to deliver first aid. • Latex gloves will be avoided to remove the risk of allergic reaction. • The first aider will cover any cuts on their hands with waterproof plasters. • The first aider will avoid putting their fingers in their mouth and touching their face. • The first aider will avoid touching any part of a dressing that will come in contact with a wound. • The first aider will wear goggles (if the person requiring first aid is showing signs of COVID19) conforming BSEN 166.1b.3 to prevent bodily fluids being splashed into the eyes. • A fluid-resistant surgical face mask will be worn by the first aider, if the person is presenting with | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| | <p>The First aider may have an allergic reaction to latex gloves.</p> | <p>COVID19 symptoms. The surgical masks used conform to BS EN 14683:2019 Type IIR.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After each first aid treatment is given all equipment and surfaces, including goggles and visor used will be cleaned down using a detergent solution. This is followed by disinfection using a solution that contains 1000 parts per million (1000 ppm av.cl.). The goggles and visor are rinsed with clean water after being disinfected to remove any chemical residue. • After using the face masks, aprons and gloves they will be correctly doffed and placed straight into a bag and the bags tied. • NHS hand washing posters have been installed above sinks to give information on good hand washing techniques. • Face masks and gloves will only be used for 1 treatment of first aid they will not be used to treat a second person requiring first aid. • First aiders have been given information on how to correctly don and doff their PPE. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No food will be stored or eaten in the first aid room. • After first aid treatment is given and cleaning has been completed the first aider will wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds before commencing any further work. • There is a dedicated room for first aid that will be used solely for first aid treatment to help prevent bodily fluids contaminating other parts of the building. • The first aid room is well ventilated at all times. | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>Intimate care</p> | <p>Staff, pupil</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The staff member providing the intimate care will wash hands thoroughly before and after providing intimate care, using soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use alcohol-based hand sanitiser if soap and water is not available. • NHS hand washing posters have been installed above sinks to give information on good hand | | | | | | | | | | |

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| | | <p>washing techniques.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children, young people and students whose care routinely already involves the use of PPE due to their intimate care needs will continue to receive their care in the same way, using the same PPE as they have always done for this task. This PPE includes: <p>(Please delete/add as appropriate)</p> <p>Gloves Goggles Apron Mask Visor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If contact with the unwell child or young person is necessary, then nitrile/latex disposable gloves, a disposable apron and a fluid-resistant surgical face mask should be worn by the supervising adult. If there is a risk of splashing to the eyes, for example from coughing, spitting, or vomiting, then eye protection should also be worn. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The room is well ventilated at all times. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Insufficient Cleaning | Reduced infection control which may result in spread of COVID19 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A detailed cleaning schedule will be implemented throughout the site, ensuring that contact points, e.g. worksurfaces, door handles, taps etc. are all thoroughly cleaned and disinfected regularly. A record of each cleaning / disinfecting activity is recorded to include what has been cleaned, by who, when and how. Hard surfaces are cleaned with soap and water/standard detergent prior to disinfecting. Hard surfaces to be cleaned with soap and water prior to disinfecting. Disinfecting should be performed using either a combined detergent disinfectant solution at a dilution of 1000 parts per million (ppm) available chlorine (av.cl.) or a household detergent followed by a disinfectant solution at a dilution of 1000 parts per million (ppm) available chlorine (av.cl.) the goggles and visor will be rinsed | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider increasing hours of cleaning staff/increasing the number of cleaning staff assist in enhancing the cleaning regime. | | | | | | | | |

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| | | <p>with clean water after being disinfected.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extra attention is to be given to frequently touched areas and surfaces, e.g. doors, toilets, door handles, phones, light switches and door fobs, etc. at least twice a day with one of those times being either at the start or end of the day. • Hand towels and hand wash are to be checked and replaced as needed by the Premises Officer and cleaning staff. • Enhance the cleaning regimes for toilet facilities, particularly door handles, locks and the toilet flush, etc. • Only cleaning products supplied by the school are to be used. Staff are told not to bring cleaning products from home. • Please refer to the school’s COSHH risk assessments for further control measures in relation to cleaning chemicals used. • PPE required for cleaning will be noted in the outcome of the COSHH risk assessments conducted for cleaning chemicals used. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bin liners are used in all bins and bins are emptied into the external waste bin/skip regularly. Random monitoring spot checks are made by the Site Manager to confirm cleaning activities are being completed. This will be formally documented on the cleaning record. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>Poor Ventilation / Lack of Ventilation</p> <p>Thermal Discomfort in colder months</p> | <p>Staff, pupils, visitors, contractors.</p> <p>Reduced infection control which may result in spread of COVID19.</p> <p>COVID-19 transmitting through mechanical ventilation ducts that link between rooms.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mechanical ventilation in the following rooms will remain switched off as it moves air between rooms: REPLACE or CHECK IF APPROPRIATE Classrooms A1, A4, A6, Staffroom, Reprographics room. Mechanical systems have been adjusted to provide full fresh air in rooms: REPLACE Classrooms A1, A4, A6, Staffroom, Reprographics room. Mechanical ventilation systems have been adjusted to increase the ventilation rate in rooms or they have been put on extended | | | | <p>Consider using CO2 monitors to check air quality in poorly ventilated rooms. When the monitor indicates open windows and doors till monitor returns to normal.</p> | | | | | | | | |

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| | | <p>or longer run hours:</p> <p>REPLACE Classrooms A1, A4, A6, Staffroom, Reprographics room.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recirculation units for heating and cooling that do not draw in a supply of fresh air can remain in operation as long as there is a supply of outdoor air. This could mean leaving windows and doors open. • Natural ventilation is provided by opening windows. In cooler weather windows will be opened just enough to provide constant background ventilation. • Windows will be opened more fully during breaks to purge the air in the space. • Parents have been informed that the uniform policy has been relaxed to allow for pupils to wear warm clothing such as a jumper or jacket in colder months. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural ventilation is provided by opening external doors where this would not create a safeguarding and/or fire risk. Furniture has been re-arranged where possible to avoid direct drafts. This may prove to be difficult where class sizes are large. Heating will be used and adjusted as necessary in occupied spaces to help to ensure thermal comfort levels are maintained. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Poor Hand Hygiene | Reduced infection control which may result in spread of COVID19 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils and staff to wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds on arrival at school, before eating and after breaks. Hand sanitiser available throughout the school. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Poor Respiratory Hygiene | Reduced infection control which may result in spread of COVID19 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tissues provided in every classroom. Lidded bins provided in all classrooms and in communal areas. Relay the “catch it, kill it, bin it” approach to all staff and pupils. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

To add more rows to the risk assessment, place the cursor within the last row right click and select insert row below.

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Source:

Air conditioning and ventilation during the coronavirus outbreak

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/coronavirus/equipment-and-machinery/air-conditioning-and-ventilation.htm>

Contacts: PHE health protection teams

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/contacts-phe-health-protection-teams>

Source NHS:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>

COVID-19: cleaning in non-healthcare settings:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings>

St. John Ambulance Covid-19: advice for first aiders:

<https://www.sja.org.uk/get-advice/first-aid-advice/covid-19-advice-for-first-aiders/>

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| Risk Assessor (s) Name(s): | | Risk Assessor(s) Signature (S): | |
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| Authorised By: | | Authoriser Signature: | | Initial |
| Date Conducted: | 30/08/2021 | Date of Next Review: | 01/10/2021 | |
| | | Date of Review: | | |
| | | Date of Review: | | |
| | | Date of Review: | | |
| | | Date of Review: | | |

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| Potential Severity of Harm | High Death, long term serious ill health. | Medium | High | High |
| | Medium Illness requiring further medical assistance. | Low | Medium | High |
| | Low Mild illness requiring self-isolation only | Low | Low | Medium |
| | Low The event is unlikely to happen. | Medium It is fairly likely to happen. | High It is likely to happen. | |
| Likelihood of Harm Occurring | | | | |

Risk Rating Definitions

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| Low | This is an acceptable level of risk. No further controls are required as the risk rating cannot be reduced any further. However, it is advised that continual monitoring occurs in order to ensure that no changes / deviation of control measures occur. |
| Medium | It is advised that further controls are implemented to reduce the risk rating to as low a level as possible. If the risk cannot be reduced to lower than a medium, then on site monitoring should occur to ensure that all stipulated controls are being adhered to. |
| High | This is an unacceptable risk rating. Urgent interim controls should be implemented to reduce the risk so far as is reasonably practicable. If the risk rating cannot be reduced to lower than a High , then a documented safe system of work should be implemented to control the activity. It may be necessary to seek further professional advice. Serious considerations should be given to the validity of carrying out the activity at all. Regular monitoring of the activity should occur. |