

COVID RISK ASSESSMENT FROM July 19th 2021

- This risk assessment template is intended to support schools in their decision-making process and enable them to assess their site and activities as required by the current government guidance.
- This assessment is based on the expectations set out in the Schools coronavirus (COVID-19) operational guidance July 2021 (applies from Step 4, after 19th July)
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak> but must be adapted in order to give a clear narrative on the specific controls being put in place within your school to manage the risk from coronavirus.

As with other areas of risk school employers and leaders are required to reduce risk as far as is reasonably practicable, recognising that it is not possible to completely eliminate the risk of coronavirus.

- During this evolving situation please monitor and follow government guidance, further reviews and updates to the template will be made following any significant updates.
- In addition you should continue to review your controls and activities and update the risk assessment to reflect any changes in practice.

Notes on completion:

- This risk assessment should be completed by the Head and SLT in consultation with staff.

Consultation with employees is a legal duty and involving staff in the planning and assessment process will aid in your controls being adopted and in easing any anxiety amongst staff.

- Where you have a Union H&S representative then make sure you consult with them as part of the risk assessment process.
- You will need to review and tailor the contents of this generic risk assessment to meet your own individual circumstances, actions determined as required but not yet in place should be moved from the 'What are you already doing?' column to the "What further action is necessary?" column. Or alternative and equivalent control measures which you have put in place added.
- Ensure this document is made **specific** to your site. Record any other **significant** findings and actions required to reduce risk further where existing controls are insufficient, assigning these actions to an appropriate manager or member of staff.
- There may also be a requirement to review other existing work activity risk assessments for your school and amend these (if you have not already done so) to include the management of the risks associated with COVID-19.

Share the risk assessment

Once the assessment is completed **share** this with all staff, make sure that you brief all temporary staff, peripatetic and supply teachers, visiting coaches etc. on your expectations on managing risk.

- You may choose to publish the risk assessment on your website to provide a clear transparent approach to the wider school community.

Monitor and review

As the school returns continue to review how staff and students adopt to your controls, there will almost certainly be areas where the risk assessment will need review to reflect additional controls or risks which only became apparent as your operational activities and curriculum are delivered.

Review and tailor the contents of this generic risk assessment to meet your school's individual circumstances, actions determined as required but not yet in place should be moved from the 'What are you already doing?' column to the 'What further action is necessary?' column. Record any other **significant** findings and actions required to reduce risk further where existing controls are insufficient, assigning these actions to an appropriate manager or member of staff.

RISK ASSESSMENT FOR: School activities during COVID 19 outbreak – After July 19th 2021		 Hertfordshire
Establishment: Woolenwick Junior School	Assessment by: Anna Page	Date: 01/09/21
Risk assessment number/ref: (add your own if so desired): <i>September 21</i>	Manager Approval: Richard Pallant	Date: 01/09/21

Rev 15: revised to reflect move to Step 4 from July 19th and Schools Operational Guidance [Actions for schools during the coronavirus outbreak - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak)

10/8/21 link to Herts Music Service updated, new edition of CIBSE ventilation guidance referenced

31/08/21 **self-isolation requirement**– updated age of young people exempt from self-isolation if a contact of a positive case to under the age of 18 years and 6 months

02/09/21 link to 'when to contact the LA Covid response team' added (highlighted in yellow)

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing?	What further action is necessary?	Action by who?	Action by when?	Done
Individual risk factors meaning staff / pupils more vulnerable to COVID-19 Clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) pupils and staff Shielding for CEV individuals paused on 1st April 2021.	Staff, Students / pupils / wider contacts Spread of COVID 19	Pupils Those CEV pupils unable to attend school because they are under specialist care and following specific clinical advice (e.g. a letter from their consultant/GP stating they should refrain from attending school) will be provided with remote education. Existing individual health care plans in place for pupils/students to be reviewed. Clear message sent to parents that students should not be sent into school if unwell for both Covid-19 and any other illnesses/symptoms. Staff Individuals classed as clinically extremely vulnerable to have a risk assessment undertaken on their role. School to discuss arrangements / concerns with individuals and provide assurance of controls in place (i.e. hand washing, enhanced cleaning,	From 1 st April CEV staff were able to return to the workplace. Individual risk assessments for CEV staff to	RP TB RP RP		

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		<p>ventilation, managing confirmed / suspected cases, LFD testing) and through the risk assessment process determine if any additional measures are required. This should consider if these staff are able to work from home or in areas / roles where limiting close contact is easier.</p> <p>See https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19</p> <p>Protect vulnerable workers - Working safely during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic (hse.gov.uk)</p> <p>Nationally every adult has been offered a first vaccine and the opportunity for two doses by mid-September.</p> <p>Asymptomatic testing (LFD testing) Testing remains voluntary but strongly encouraged. Over the summer staff and secondary age students continue to test regularly (x2 weekly) if attending school.</p>	<p>be reviewed if they cannot work from home.</p> <p>In the event of an individual following specific clinical advice (e.g. a letter from their consultant/GP stating they should refrain from attending the workplace) it is strongly recommended that Schools contact their HR Advisor.</p> <p>COVID-19 booster vaccines to the most vulnerable, starting from September 2021</p> <p>Encourage vaccine take up (both doses)</p>	<p>RP</p> <p>JT</p>		
School occupants coming into contact with those with Coronavirus symptoms	<p>Staff, Students / pupils / wider contacts</p> <p>Spread of COVID 19</p>	<p>School community clear on symptoms of coronavirus: a high temperature, a new continuous cough or a loss of, or change, in their normal sense of taste or smell. Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection followed.</p> <p>These expectations have been communicated to all.</p> <p>Arrangements in place to ensure symptomatic staff / pupils do not return until isolation period has passed or negative test result confirmed.</p> <p>No symptomatic individuals to present on site.</p> <p>In the event of a suspected case whilst working on site Ensure SLT / Head are notified.</p> <p>Individual goes home immediately (if awaiting collection by their parent, isolate child in a room behind a closed door, or an area away from others (2M), open a window for ventilation) and self-isolate.</p>		<p>RP</p> <p>SA</p> <p>RP/SA</p> <p>RP/SA</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>RP?SA</p>		

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<p>School occupants coming into contact with those with Coronavirus symptoms</p>	<p>Staff, Students / pupils / wider contacts</p> <p>Spread of COVID 19</p>	<p>School staff supervising the child while they await collection should wear PPE (a fluid resistant surgical mask, type IIR) if close contact is necessary. If direct care (such as for a very young child or a child with complex needs) is required then staff giving care to wear a fluid resistant surgical mask (type IIR), disposable apron and gloves.</p> <p>Clear message to parents that if a student is unwell at school they are to be sent home or collected immediately.</p> <p>Anyone who has had contact with those with symptoms to wash hands thoroughly. All areas occupied and equipment used by the affected person are to be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected (see PHE cleaning advice https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings)</p> <p>Pupils, staff and other adults should follow public health advice on When to self-isolate and what to do - Coronavirus (COVID-19) - NHS (www.nhs.uk)</p> <p>Testing Staff / pupils who develop symptoms should be PCR tested. Testing is most sensitive within 3 days of symptoms developing. Guidelines on who can get tested and how to arrange for a test can be found in the COVID-19: getting tested guidance.</p> <p>Tests can be booked online through the NHS website https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/ Direct link is https://self-referral.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/antigen/name or call 119 if they have no internet access.</p> <p>Schools were initially provided with 10 PCR home testing kits which can be provided in the exceptional circumstance that you believe an individual may have barriers to accessing testing elsewhere. See https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-home-test-</p>	<p>Staff and pupils who are tested for Covid-19 to inform the school of result and date of test.</p> <p>A positive PCR test will still require self-isolation regardless of vaccination status or age.</p> <p>Additional PCR kits able to be ordered via https://request-testing.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/</p>	<p>JT</p> <p>JT</p>		

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Ineffective hygiene protocols	Students / pupils / wider contacts Spread of COVID 19	<p>All persons to wash hands with soap and water regularly and thoroughly, for at least 20 seconds. Hand washing technique to be adopted as directed by NHS guidance posters in place to reinforce this.</p> <p>Alcohol hand sanitiser used in addition where required. Review existing levels / location of hand sanitiser stations. Provided at reception / entrance/exit points; student entrance /reception. Additional hand sanitiser in circulation spaces / classrooms where required.</p> <p>Build use into routines staff and pupil routines e.g. on arrival, when returning from breaks, when changing rooms, before / after eating.</p> <p>Site staff to regularly clean the hand washing facilities and check consumables. Provide suitable and sufficient rubbish bins for hand towels with regular removal and disposal.</p> <p>Ensure adequate supplies of soap, hand sanitiser and paper towels and these should be securely stored.</p> <p>Catch it, kill it, bin it message reinforced. Staff / students to use tissues when coughing or sneezing and then place the used tissue in the bin before washing hands. (lidded bins in classrooms / other locations for disposal of tissues and other waste)</p> <p>All persons are reminded to not touch their eyes, nose or mouth if their hands are not clean.</p>		ALL KS ALL KS KS ALL ALL		
General Transmission of COVID-19 Ineffective cleaning High Contact points	Staff, Students / pupils / wider contacts Spread of COVID 19	<p>Documented cleaning schedule in place, regular cleaning implemented.</p> <p>Ensure that frequent contact points, e.g. door handles, taps, flush handles, toilet door handles, table / desktops, bannisters, telephones, keyboards etc. are cleaned and disinfected regularly.</p> <p>Cleaning materials (e.g. disinfectant spray / wipes) available to staff. Manufacturer's instructions for dilution, application, PPE and contact times for all detergents and disinfectants to be followed.</p> <p>Only cleaning products supplied by the school / contract cleaners are to be used. School to obtain the risk assessment from contract cleaning staff for assurance on social distancing measures and their schedule / methods for cleaning the school site.</p>		KS KS KS KS		

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		<p>Since 29th March outdoor fixtures against other schools have been permissible (in line with restrictions on grassroots sport).</p> <p>Since 12th April indoor competition between different schools has been permissible.</p> <p>See guidance on grassroot sports for public and sport providers, safe provision and facilities, and guidance from Sport England</p> <p>See advice and FAQ's from Association for Physical Education, AfPE have also published a model risk assessment for PE. https://www.afpe.org.uk/physical-education/coronavirus-guidance-support/</p> <p>Science / DT For secondary science and DT see also CLEAPPS advice (GL343 & GL 344) for suggested considerations in undertaking practical work. CLEAPSS Home page</p> <p>Music Singing and wind / brass instruments No limits on the number of people who can sing indoors or outdoors. However there is Increased risk of aerosol transmission with volume and larger numbers of individuals within a confined space.</p> <p>Where using indoor spaces ensure good ventilation through the use of mechanical systems and/or opening windows and doors. Use larger rooms with high ceilings (school Hall) for larger groups.</p> <p>Encouraging the use of outside space where practical</p> <p>Additional guidance and supplementary risk assessment on music lessons in school has been produced by Herts Music service. https://www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk/schools-area/covid-guidance-for-schools-herts-music-service.aspx</p> <p>Offsite visits Offsite visits (day visits) able to be run since 12th April in line with the Government's roadmap. Domestic residential visits able to take place since 17th May International visits able to commence from start of Autumn term. Off site visits risk assessment to be undertaken and include IPC measures.</p>	<p>Travel list (and broader international travel policy) is subject to change, contingency plans required</p>	<p>JB/AP</p> <p>JB/AP</p> <p>MB</p>		
Canteen use / lunchtimes	Staff,	Reinforce handwashing prior to eating food.		ALL		

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	Students / pupils / wider contacts Spread of COVID 19	Hand sanitiser should be available at the entrance of any room where people eat and should be used by all persons when entering and leaving the area. Canteen use Food operators continue to follow Food Standard Agency's (FSA) guidance on good hygiene practices in food preparation and their Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) processes. Payments should be taken by contactless methods wherever possible. (Risks from fingerprint contact payment considered low if handwashing / sanitizing is enforced).		PB/KS		
Contractors	Contractors, Staff, Students / pupils / wider contacts, Spread of COVID 19	School and any on site contractors (Catering, cleaning, FM provider etc.) to co-operate and share risk assessments. All contractors will read and comply with signs in reception regarding good hygiene. Staff and contractors are to maintain respectful distance between themselves and others (1M+ where practical). All contractors are to wash their hands or use alcohol-based hand sanitiser upon entering the site. Agree approach to scheduled / ongoing building works. Where works can be conducted outside of the school day they should be. School to seek confirmation of the contractors method statement / risk assessment.		KS		
Provision of first aid	Staff, Students / pupils / wider contacts Spread of COVID 19	Where reasonable physical contact should be kept to a minimum e.g. pupils apply cold pack, wipe, plaster where able to do so. Wash hands before / after treatment. Those administering first aid should wear PPE appropriate to the circumstances. Where the injury was significant and thus required close care for an extended period then it would be reasonable to provide PPE. All PPE should be worn properly, and removed with care. Wash hands immediately and thoroughly before and after removing PPE. See also 'provision of personal care' and 'Suspected case whilst working on site'. First aiders to be aware of advice on CPR from The Resuscitation Council Resuscitation Council UK Statement on COVID-19 in relation to CPR and resuscitation in first aid and community settings Resuscitation Council UK		SA/JT		

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Provision of personal care	Staff, Students / pupils / wider contacts Spread of COVID 19	Additional PPE in place if required e.g. for intimate care, to be risk assessed and to be based on nature of task and level of contact (e.g. disposable apron, gloves, fluid resistant surgical mask (type IIR) and if there is a risk of splashing to the eyes e.g. coughing, spitting, vomiting then eye protection (e.g. face shield / visor) should be worn.) Face visors or shields should not be worn as an alternative to face coverings. Ensure any reusable PPE such as face visors are cleaned after use. Where a child falls ill with Coronavirus symptoms whilst on site (new continuous cough, high temperature cough or a loss of, or change, in your normal sense of taste or smell.) then school staff supervising the child while they await collection should wear PPE (a fluid resistant surgical mask) if close contact is required. If direct care (such as for a very young child or a child with complex needs) is required then staff giving care to wear a fluid resistant surgical mask, disposable apron and gloves. All PPE should be worn properly, and removed with care. Wash hands immediately and thoroughly before and after removing PPE.		SA/JT		
Premises safety	Staff, Students / pupils Wider safeguarding / safety risks	Ensure all 'normal' tasks / compliance checks are being carried out/planned such as fire alarm testing, legionella controls, servicing of equipment, PAT testing etc. Ensure all key services are operational Legionella Any new 'seldomly' used water outlets to be flushed weekly. Post any lockdown / in the event of closure of any part of the building i.e. where weekly flushing of outlets has not taken place then chlorination / flushing of whole system should take place. Ensure key fire doors are not being compromised / wedged open (those protected stairwells, cross corridor, on single directional routes etc.)		KS		
Lack of awareness of PHE / school controls	Staff, Students / pupils / wider contacts Spread of COVID 19	All staff consulted on plans and risk assessment. Parents/ carers and pupils informed of measures in place to protect them Posters will be displayed in the reception, welfare areas and in suitable places around site. Clear briefing for all personnel on site, warning them of the risks posed by the virus as well as the control measures outlined in this assessment and from government guidance. Volunteers, peripatetic, temporary / supply staff, sports coaches and other providers are briefed on school's arrangements for managing and minimising risk.		RP		

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Staffing levels	<p>Staff, Students / pupils</p> <p>Spread of COVID 19</p> <p>Wider safeguarding / safety risks</p>	<p>Dynamic decisions on staffing levels made dependent on numbers / needs of pupils present in school.</p> <p>Reviewed to ensure adequate number of staff in attendance to maintain an appropriate ratio with pupils and ensure key competencies (first aid etc maintained)</p> <p>Options such as supply staff, splitting classes, SLT cover, partial closure may be required in event of staff shortages.</p>	<p>Local operational decisions on partial closure / closure to be made in event of insufficient available staff to supervise pupils. With a move to remote learning in such circumstances for those pupils affected.</p>	RP		

Previous revisions

Rev 1: updated template following issue of Government advice on July 2nd

[Actions for schools during coronavirus outbreak'](#)

Rev 2: 16/07/20 updates to swimming pool section following confirmation of re-opening from 25th July, additional controls added to hire / lettings, some other minor changes;

Rev 3: 13/08/20 updated to take account in changes in national advice regarding face coverings

Rev 4: 01/09/20 updated following updated [DfE guidance on full opening](#) (28/8/20), [face coverings in education](#) (year 7 and above), testing kits and DfE guidance on [extra curricular activity](#)

Rev 5: 09/10/20 updated link to reporting of positive cases, use of NHS COVID-19 app and link to supplementary hire conditions added, updated Association of PE links added, changes from previous version highlighted in yellow.

Rev 6: 04/11/20 updated following revised DfE guidance (22/10/20) and [New national restrictions](#) from November 5th until 2nd December (See also How New National Restrictions to control the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) impact education, childcare and children's social care settings <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/education-and-childcare-settings-new-national-restrictions-from-5-november-2020>)

19/11/20 – minor addition only to clarify extracurricular activities / clubs can include activities related to PE, sport, music etc. where this is to enable parents / carers to work etc.

Rev 7: 01/12/20 Applicable from 2nd December updated to reflect end of national restrictions and Hertfordshire entering tier 2. Also maximum group size of 15 for singing / playing wind/ brass instruments removed and section on music revised.

14/12/20 minor update to reflect change in self-isolation period for close contacts from 14 days to 10 days with self-isolation period beginning on the day after exposure, a test or the start of symptoms.

Rev 8: 15/12/20 update to reflect the following District / Borough Councils moving into tier 3 very high alert on 12:01am on 16th December: Broxbourne, Hertsmere, Three Rivers, Watford See <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/full-list-of-local-restriction-tiers-by-area> ;

17/12/20 - minor update to reflect all of Hertfordshire entered tier 3 as from 00:01 Saturday 19th December

Rev 9: 23/12/20 update to reflect Hertfordshire entering tier 4 as from Sunday 20th December, CEV staff and students to shield, suspension of hires in line with national guidance, offer of lateral flow testing from 1st week in January.

Rev 10: 04/01/21 updated in line with revised national [guidance on return in January 2021](#) and Contingency framework implementation this applies to Schools in Broxbourne, Watford , Three Rivers and Hertsmere <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-contingency-framework-for-education-and-childcare-settings> changes highlighted in yellow

Rev 11 06/01/21 updated to remove reference to tiered system and announcement on 4th January of a national lockdown for all England

08/01/21 minor addition to make clear Schools can where required continue to engage supply and peripatetic teachers during this period.

03/02/21 updated broken AfPE hyperlink, added links to lateral flow testing risk assessment (No changes to the risk assessment required from the updated DfE guidance '[Restricting attendance during the national lockdown schools](#)' (2/2/21))

Rev 12 23/02/21 updated to reflect new DfE guidance applicable from March 8th
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak>

Take this opportunity to review and refresh all your now 'normal' measures on site, ensure that any signage and floor markings which may have faded / lost their impact are reinstated and re-communicate the importance for staff and children of social distancing, wearing of face coverings, hand hygiene and maintaining ventilation.

Rev 13 01/04/21 review following updated DfE guidance and pause in shielding for CEV individuals from 31st March

Rev 14 12/05/21 reviewed following revised DfE guidance of May 10th to reflect step 3 of roadmap (from May 17th) changes made relate mainly to face coverings, educational visits and wraparound / extra-curricular activity.

Relevant links

Guidance for educational settings

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/guidance-for-schools-coronavirus-covid-19>

Actions for schools COVID operational guidance

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

Contingency Framework <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-contingency-framework-for-education-and-childcare-settings>

Protective measures for holiday and after-school clubs

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protective-measures-for-holiday-or-after-school-clubs-and-other-out-of-school-settings-for-children-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak#consider-group>

Face coverings in Education <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-in-education>

Cleaning after a positive / symptomatic case on site

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

Guidance on infection prevention and control for COVID-19

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-infection-prevention-and-control>

First aid guidance <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-interim-guidance-for-first-responders/interim-guidance-for-first-responders-and-others-in-close-contact-with-symptomatic-people-with-potential-2019-ncov>

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

CPR on adults <https://www.sja.org.uk/get-advice/first-aid-advice/unresponsive-casualty/how-to-do-cpr-on-an-adult/>

Therapeutic use of Hydrotherapy pools ATACP <https://atacp.csp.org.uk/documents/atacp-recommendations-safe-aquatic-physiotherapy-practice-relation-covid-19-pandemic-0>

Stay at home guidance

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>

Test and trace <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/maintaining-records-of-staff-customers-and-visitors-to-support-nhs-test-and-trace>

Face coverings <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own>

Return to Recreational team sport framework

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-phased-return-of-sport-and-recreation/return-to-recreational-team-sport-framework>

Guidance on shielding and protecting people who are extremely vulnerable from COVID-19

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19#Clinically>

Pregnant employees [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): advice for pregnant employees - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-advice-for-pregnant-employees)