Covid-19 guidance September 2021

RA100 V2.7

IMPORTANT – please read this information before completing this risk assessment.

This is a model Covid-19 outbreak risk assessment and MUST be adapted to reflect the significant hazards and control measures present in your site to allow the safe return of pupils and staff to your school. This is a live document and it must be continuously reviewed alongside the latest Covid-19 government <u>Guidance for schools</u>. It must also be read alongside existing risk assessments and health and safety arrangements for your school. Any change in advice and measures as a result of Devon county being designated as an Enhanced Response Area by central Government will be communicated separately direct to schools and will not be within this RA100 document.

The control measures listed **are prompts** and will not necessarily reflect those in all establishments and you **MUST** adapt it by adding (or removing) **and outlining in detail the control measures as appropriate to your establishment.**

If you need help to complete this risk assessment, please refer to HS47 (Risk Assessment Arrangements) or telephone the Devon Health & Safety Service on 01392 382027.

If you would like support for confirmed cases of COVID-19 call the DfE Coronavirus helpline on 0800 046 8687, they will work with you to assess the risk and advice what actions to take. If necessary, the DfE helpline will escalate to the PHE SW Health Protection Team for further risk assessment. Please only call the PHE SW Health Protection Team if the DfE helpline advises you to do so. For further detail please see the latest PHE SW Health Protection Team 'Guidance for Childcare and Educational Settings in the Management of COVID-19' flowchart v.15 dated 25.08.21(copy available from NHS England and NHS Improvement South West website). Please do report confirmed cases to Devon County Council using this smart survey link. If you think that you may need to close your setting you should also email the school priority alert mailbox





Establishment/Department:

Establishment Risk Assessment **RA100 V2.7**

Address:

The Clinton C of E school, Merton, Nr Okehampton, EX20 3EQ

Person(s)/Group at Risk Staff, Pupils, Visitors and Contractors

This risk assessment explains the actions school leaders should take to minimise the risk of transmission of COVID-19 in their school Stage 4 Road Map September 2021. This includes public health advice, endorsed by Public Health England (PHE).

This risk assessment is generic and outlines the <u>Baseline COVID-19</u> control measures. Also included is brief information on additional measures that may be recommended by DfE/PHE SW or DCC Public Health if settings meet the threshold for further public health actions (as defined in the <u>Contingency Framework</u> for Education and Childcare settings). Each school is responsible for reviewing and amending to ensure it is applicable to their setting and the latest government guidance and <u>must</u> consult with their staff regarding the risks and control measures being implemented.

General guidance on completing risk assessments is available at arrangements note HS47. When conducting the risk assessment. It is important that the school adopts a considered collaborative approach in line with DfE Guidance.

Date assessment completed:

02.09.2021

This document is to remain under constant review due to the fast-changing nature of DfE / Government guidance in response to the challenges posed by Covid-19.

Assessor(s):

Rachael Sharpe

Significant Hazard Section Additional measures or actions not included in this column below should be put in the assessor's recommendations at the end of this document		Optional: School's comments re. mitigations put in place
Keep occupied spaces well ventilated		
Poorly ventilated spaces leading to risks of coronavirus spreading Ventilation to reduce transmission	 Ventilation and AC systems working optimally. Heating is used as necessary to ensure comfort levels are maintained when the building is occupied. Keep windows open wide enough to provide some natural background ventilation and open internal doors to increase air flow. 	Windows will remain open within reason. The opening of windows will be monitored as we move into the colder season in order to ensure the comfort of children and staff.

Health and Safety Executive guidance on air conditioning and ventilation during the coronavirus outbreak and CIBSE COVID-19 advice provides more information. DfE is working with the Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE) and NHS England on a pilot project to measure CO2 levels in classrooms and exploring options to help improve ventilation in settings where needed.	 Open windows fully when rooms are unoccupied for longer periods to purge the air (e.g. lunch times and before and after school). Action taken to prevent occupants being exposed to draughts. For example, partially open high-level windows as opposed to low-level windows, close external doors and arrange the furniture if appropriate and possible. Use fans for good air circulation. Air conditioning systems that normally run with a recirculation mode set up to run on full outside air. Ventilation's system that removes and recirculates air to different rooms is turned off. Ventilation system remains on at all times, even when the building is unoccupied. The system is set to operate at lower ventilation rates during evenings and weekends. Occupants encouraged to wear additional, suitable indoor clothing. (If they have to wear coats, scarves and other outdoor clothing the room would be considered too cold and the above steps must be considered). Ensure staff meetings and insets are in rooms with suitable and sufficient ventilation A robust risk assessment process should include the following: How many people are going to be using the room – more people greater the risk What activities are being done in that room – lots of people talking, shouting, more risk CO2 monitors are only a tool to identify poorly ventilated areas – they are not to be used as a mechanism to 'measure safe thresholds' and to be used with the HSE suitability chart. Risk assessment video link https://youtu.be/hkK_LZeUGXM It is advisable to use a thermometer to monitor temperatures where opening windows and doors is being used as a mechanism to aid ventilation. For more information on suitable workplace temperatures see HSE: Guidance on temperature in the workplace 	Fire doors WILL NOT be propped open.
Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes		
You should put in place and maintain an appropriate cleaning schedule.	 Reduced clutter and removing difficult to clean items to make cleaning easier. Cleaning using standard cleaning products such as detergents and bleach, paying attention to all surfaces but especially ones that are touched 	We will continue to have our regular cleaning schedule in school.

Ensure good hygiene for everyone	frequently, such as door handles, light switches, work surfaces, remote controls and electronic devices. Surfaces that are frequently touched and by many people in common areas to be cleaned twice a day. Avoid sharing work equipment by allocating it on a personal basis or put cleaning regimes in place to clean between each user. Identify where you can reduce people touching surfaces, for example by leaving doors open (except fire doors) or providing contactless payment. Keep surfaces clear to make it easier to clean and reduce the likelihood of contaminating objects. Provide more bins and empty them more often. Toilets and communal areas to be cleaned regularly, with a process of recording – displaying cleaning schedules. Sanitising spray and paper towels to be provided in classrooms for use by members of staff. If using cloths – disposable or appropriate washing and drying process. Thorough cleaning of rooms at the end of the day. This should include regular cleaning of areas and equipment (for example, twice per day), with a particular focus on frequently touched surfaces. PHE has published guidance on the cleaning of non-healthcare settings	Throughout the day staff will be aware of and responsible for key touch points in school, especially in the classroom e.g. door handles, and any shared equipment e.g. PE equipment Staff will be responsible for any shared items that they use/touch across school and be asked to wipe surfaces after use, e.g. kettles, staffroom equipment, telephones
Hand & Respiratory hygiene	 Whilst DfE guidance removes the need for schools to use 'bubbles' PHE advice is if you can keep mixing to a minimum, it does reduce transmission along with: COVID-19 posters/ signage displayed. Frequent and thorough hand cleaning is regular practice. Pupils and staff clean their hands when they arrive at school, when they return from breaks, when they change rooms and before and after eating. Sufficient handwashing facilities are available. Where there is no sink, hand sanitiser provided in classrooms. Skin friendly skin cleaning wipes used as an alternative to hand washing or sanitiser. Staff help is available for pupils who have trouble cleaning their hands independently (e.g. small children and pupils with complex needs). Use resources such as "e-bug" to teach effective hand hygiene etc. Adults and pupils are encouraged not to touch their mouth, eyes and nose. Adults and pupils are encouraged to use a tissue to cough or sneeze and use bins for tissue waste ('catch it, bin it, kill it'). Tissues to be provided. 	We will continue to ask children to wash their hands on entry to school and at regular intervals during the day. Children and adults will also have access to hand sanitiser. Children and adults will have access to tissues and children will be encouraged to use them and dispose of them in bins provided. Posters supporting children with how to wash their hands properly and use tissues - 'catch it, bin it, kill it' will be displayed around school.

Bins for tissues provided and are emptied throughout the day. Respiratory hygiene The 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach continues to be very important. The e-Bug COVID-19 website contains free resources for you, including materials to encourage good hand and respiratory hygiene. N.B. Please note that face covering guidance has changed due to Devon becoming an 'Enhanced Response Area', the following points describe the situation outside of ERA status. • Although from Step 4, face coverings will no longer be advised for pupils, staff and visitors, persons choosing to wear face coverings as a precaution will not be deterred when outside the classroom. • Where staff are in crowded spaces, face masks may be recommended (but not required). There are good hygiene measures that can be used in: https://www.england.nhs.uk/south/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2021/08/spotty-boo k-2021.pdf https://www.england.nhs.uk/south/info-professional/public-health/infection-winter/s chools-and-nurseries-guidance/ DCC Health and Safety Arrangements: - Infection Control HS26 Conditions for use of fluid resistant face If there should be a local outbreak, staff and If a child, young person or other learner becomes unwell with symptoms of children may wish to or be advised by Public mask and other equipment when coronavirus while in their setting and needs direct personal care until they can return dealing with a symptomatic child are home a face mask should be worn by the supervising adult if a distance of 2 meters Health to wear a face covering. The school clear and understood by staff. cannot be maintained. should support staff and children who wish to wear a face covering. If contact with the child or young person is necessary, then gloves, an apron and a face mask should be worn by the supervising adult. If a risk assessment determines Transparent face coverings will be available that there is a risk of splashing to the eyes, for example from coughing, spitting, or to support communication, particularly for vomiting, then eye protection should also be worn Ensuring that fluid resistant face those with hearing difficulties. masks are available for all schools and that a supply is maintained. We will continue to encourage parents to https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safe-working-in-education-childcare-a nd-childrens-social-care/safe-working-in-education-childcare-and-childrens-social-car wear face coverings on drop off and pick up e-settings-including-the-use-of-personal-protective-equipment-ppe times (depending on the situation at the start of term in September.) This cannot be

		enforced and we will not approach parents if the do not have a face mask on
Staff use of PPE	Pupils 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. Follow guidance https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safe-working-in-education-childcare-and-childrens-social-care-settings-including-the-use-of-personal-protective-equipment-ppe	We will continue to provide PPE for all staff to be used if appropriate, e.g. if caring for a child displaying symptoms while waiting to be collected or for intimate care needs.
Staff related issues		
Accessing testing arrangements for all staff	Guidance on the new asymptomatic testing programmes taking place in schools are on a shared document platform hosted by DfE, including FAQ, webinars and step-by-step 'how to guides. For secondary schools - Resources - Google Drive. For primary schools - Primary Schools Document Sharing Platform - Google Drive.	Staff will be encouraged to continue taking twice weekly lateral flow tests. Should staff have a positive LFD test they will isolate immediately and obtain a PCR test. Staff will remain in isolation pending the result of the PCR test.
Symptoms	Deliver strong messaging about signs and symptoms of Covid-19, isolation advice and testing to support prompt isolation of suspected cases	Staff regularly reminded about symptoms
Vaccination	Encourage vaccination uptake for staff	Staff encouraged to take up vaccination
Dealing with confirmed case/ cases and outbreak.	Case (possible vs confirmed case) Possible: anyone with either a high temperature, a new, continuous cough or a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste (and awaiting a test) Confirmed: PCR or LFD test positive case of COVID-19 with or without symptoms.	
Close Contact requirements	Individuals identified as close contacts are not required to self-isolate if any of the following apply: • they are fully vaccinated (e.g. at least 2 weeks after second dose) • they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months • they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial • they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons	Guidance followed as stated.

	Close contacts who are not required to isolate will be advised to:	
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	 take a PCR test (do not need to isolate whilst awaiting result but will need to isolate as a case if positive) 	
	limit close contact with others outside their household	
	wear a face covering in enclosed spaces	
	limit contact with clinically extremely vulnerable	
	participate in twice weekly LFD testing if eligible	
	participate in twice weekly Li D testing it engine	
Cases -staff	For all cases relating to staff, please also see the guidance for workplaces: _For cases in staff, settings should call the Self-Isolation Service Hub on 020 3743 6715 as soon as they are aware. Employers will need to provide the 8-digit NHS Test and Trace account ID of the person who tested positive, alongside the names of co-workers identified as close contacts to ensure they are registered with NHS Test and Trace and receive the necessary public health advice.	Guidance followed as stated
Cases- pupils	Children who are unwell should <u>not</u> attend the setting and should remain at home	Guidance followed as stated
	until their acute symptoms resolve (+24 hours for a fever).	
	IF these symptoms develop into cough, temperature, changes to taste	Additionally:
	and smell, should isolate and test. • IF test penaltive to COVID-19, still need to remain at home until at least	Children disalessing assessment sees will not be
	• IF test negative to COVID-19, still need to remain at home until at least 24 fever free and acute symptoms resolved.	Children displaying symptoms will not be admitted to school, or sent home if
	Parents and settings should not try and 'second guess' diagnosis – if have the key	displaying symptoms while at school. The
	symptoms, isolate and test.	Headteacher's decision is final. This will be
	symptoms, isolate and testi	communicated clearly to parents.
	Examples of acute symptoms with which children should not attend school/nursery	communication order, to pareme
	include fever, muscle aches, hacking cough.	Seating plans will be kept by class teachers in
	Follow public health advice on managing confirmed cases of COVID-19 see Schools	case information is required. Class teachers
	COVID-19 operational guidance - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)	will be able to provide information about
	 Ensure the case isolates for 10 days 	close friendship groups if required.
	 Household of the case isolates for 10 days (unless fully vaccinated or 	
	aged under 18 years and 6 months)	All staff have a clear understanding of
	If positive case came from an LFD test, case should take a and the LFD and t	COVID-19 symptoms and what to look out
	confirmatory PCR test within 48hrs of the LFD	for.
	 Following a pupil PCR positive NHS Test and Trace will speak to the case (or parent/carer) to identify close contacts and advice on isolation 	Information will be communicated to
	as required and to get a PCR test	parents regularly regarding the procedures
	Staff and pupils who do not need to isolate should continue to attend	we will follow should we have a child with
	school as normal	symptoms
	Clean and disinfect rooms the case was in, using appropriate PPE	' '

	 Case and any isolating contacts can return once isolation period is completed, as long as they are well Escalation criteria: If you have any infection control concerns or questions call the DfE Coronavirus helpline on 0800 046 8687 for advice. If your setting meets the following thresholds for extra action (outlined in the Contingency Framework), the DfE helpline will escalate to the SW PHE Health Protection Team when a risk assessment is required. DCC Public Health Team can also assist. 	The Headteacher's office will be the isolation room should it be needed.
Case Thresholds	 For most education and childcare settings: 5 children, pupils, students or staff, who are likely to have mixed closely, test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period. 10% of children, pupils, students or staff who are likely to have mixed closely test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period. There are any admissions to hospital for COVID-19. You are having problems implementing the control measures OR you have applied the control measures and are still seeing a significant rise in cases. For special schools, residential settings, and settings that operate with 20 or fewer children, pupils, students and staff, who are likely to have mixed 	Guidance followed as stated
Contingency framework and outbreak control measures	closely, test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period. Schools are required to update their contingency plan (or outbreak management plan) and describe how they will respond if children, pupils, or staff test positive for COVID-19, how they will operate if they are advised to reintroduce any measures to help break chains of transmission. Such measures should be considered in addition to the day-to-day control measures being implemented by schools, PHE SW Health Protection Team have defined 4 levels:	Contingency plan includes: If it becomes necessary, we will separate children into mini-school bubbles, i.e. LittleOtters Kingfishers Swallows
	 Baseline measures which settings should have in place at all times: Pupils in secondary schools and colleges should be tested twice on site at an Asymptomatic Testing Site upon their return in the Autumn Term (3-5 days apart). Following this, staff and students in secondary schools and colleges, and staff in primary schools should test themselves using LFDs twice a week using home test kits until the end of September when this is reviewed. Early years and wrap around childcare staff should continue to test twice weekly as they have done during the summer. Twice weekly testing for staff and students in HE settings will continue until the end of September Follow and promote public health guidance on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19 	If it becomes necessary, we will separate at lunch and break times. If it becomes necessary, we will reintroduce staggered start and end times and/or different drop off/pick up points to prevent mini-school bubbles mixing. If there should be a local outbreak, staff and children may wish to or be advised by Public Health to wear a face covering. The school

	 Setting based contact tracing of staff cases and staff contacts to be reported to the Self-Isolation Hub (020 3743 6715) Continue good hygiene measures, maintain appropriate cleaning regimes, keep occupied spaces well ventilated Appropriate use of PPE Continue strong messaging about signs and symptoms of COVID-19, isolation advice and testing Encourage vaccination uptake for eligible staff and students Additional outbreak control measures – If the threshold for extra action (set out in the Contingency Framework) is met, additional outbreak measures may be considered that are appropriate and proportionate to your school. These can be implemented by the school without additional support/approval: Providing a 'warn and inform' letter to parents Strengthening communications to encourage testing (staff and secondary aged pupils only) Consider moving activities outside (including exercise, assemblies and classes) Further improvement of ventilation indoors, one-off enhanced cleaning (focus on touch points and shared equipment) Reviewing and reinforcing hygiene measures Enhanced or Exceptional outbreak control measures - can be recommended following an Incident Management Team (IMT) or Outbreak Control Team meeting (OCT) and risk assessment undertaken with the Local Authority (or Health Protection Team (HPT)*. Note: additional measures may also be advised by a Director of Public Health across an entire area if an Enhanced Response Package (ERA) is in place (your LA will communicate this to you) Contingency framework: education and childcare settings Actions for schools during the coronavirus outbreak 	should support staff and children who wish to wear a face covering. Transparent face coverings will be available to support communication, particularly for those with hearing difficulties. The school will provide remote education as necessary.
Pupil /staff related issues		
Vulnerable groups who are clinically, extremely vulnerable.	All CEV children and young people should attend their education setting unless they are one of the very small number of children and young people under paediatric or other specialist care who have been advised by their GP or clinician not to attend.	Support will be given to families with CEV children.

	Further information is available in the guidance on <u>supporting pupils at school with medical conditions</u> . Whilst attendance is mandatory, we recommend that leaders in education work collaboratively with families to reassure them and to help their child return to their everyday activities. Discussions should have a collaborative approach, focusing on the welfare of the child or young person and responding to the concerns of the parent, carer or young person FAQ	Currently we have no such children who fall into this category at school.
Assessment of all staff, including high risk staff with vulnerable / shielding family member, underlying health conditions or other risk factors	A risk assessment should be undertaken with clinically extremely vulnerable and clinically vulnerable. A risk assessment should also be undertaken (or reviewed/updated if one was previously undertaken) with staff who may be anxious about returning to school and/or due to the increased numbers. The 'Risk assessment for all staff including vulnerable groups' can be used to aid and record this assessment - https://devoncc.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/PublicDocs/Education/ESoXeZkAQylLupPG5VVG6yQB2iEFDD4pgkko5gBbtOSEkw?e=040Qiy	CEV staff will have an individual risk assessment if requested and this will be completed by their line manager with advice from their health professional. Appropriate measures will be made to support if and when needed.
Pregnant staff	Coronavirus (COVID-19): advice for pregnant employees - GOV.UK (www.qov.uk) - should have a risk assessment in place: Coronavirus (COVID-19) infection and pregnancy (rcog.org.uk) can support risk assessment a more precautionary approach advised for those >28 weeks pregnant or for individuals with underlying health conditions that place them at greater risk.	Guidance followed as stated
Transport		
Travel and quarantine	Where pupils travel from abroad to attend a boarding school, you will need to explain the rules to pupils and their parents before they travel to the UK. All pupils travelling to England must adhere to travel legislation , details of which are set out in qovernment travel advice . Additional guidance has been issued on the quarantine arrangements for boarding school pupils travelling from red-list countries to attend a boarding school in England .	Quarantine requirements will be clearly communicated to parents where necessary.
Transport to/from school	Following discussions with colleagues at Public Health Devon and the Department for Education, and with the aim of minimising disruption to education in the Autumn term, we are asking that students aged 11 and over continue to wear face coverings when travelling on school transport until further notice.	Guidance followed as stated

	 We recognise that some medical conditions or additional needs may make this not possible - exemption passes are available - please contact the school directly who will be able to issue these. We would also ask that: Students should wash/clean their hands before boarding home to school transport, and when arriving at school or home. Students should respect the driver's personal space and hold back from entering the vehicle until the driver has indicated it is safe to do so, they should then board one by one in an orderly manner. It is still recommended that face coverings are worn by all passengers, unless exempt (www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-travel-guidance-forpassengers#face-coverings) 	
Curriculum considerations		
Educational visits	You should undertake full and thorough risk assessments in relation to all educational visits and ensure that any public health advice, such as hygiene and ventilation requirements, is included as part of that risk assessment. General guidance about educational visits is available and is supported by specialist advice from the Outdoor Education Advisory Panel (OEAP).	We will undertake full and thorough risk assessments in relation to all educational visits and ensure that any public health advice (such as hygiene and ventilation requirements) is included as part of that risk assessment.
Resources		
	DfE daily email- DfE - COVID daily email subscription service (office.com) Posters and promotional material - https://coronavirusresources.phe.gov.uk/back-to-school/resources/ NHS resources and videos Handwashing for teachers Handwashing for children Coronavirus factsheet for kids PPE Donning and Doffing advice Other resources and videos COVID-19: the facts Scouts Breaking the chain of infection	

Oversight of the governing body		
Lack of governor oversight during the COVID-19 crisis leads to the school failing to meet statutory requirements	The governing body continues to meet regularly via online platforms. The governing body agendas are structured to ensure all statutory requirements are discussed and school leaders are held to account for their implementation. The Headteacher's report to governors includes content and updates on how the school is continuing to meet its statutory obligations in addition to covering the school's response to COVID-19. Regular dialogue with the Chair of Governors and those governors with designated responsibilities is in place. Minutes of governing body meetings are reviewed to ensure that they accurately record governors' oversight and holding leaders to account for areas of statutory responsibility.	Local School Committee meetings will take place each half term.

Section	List Actions / Additional Control Measures	Date action to be carried out	Person Responsible

Signed: Headteacher/Head of Department:

Date: 2nd September 2021

The outcome of this assessment should be shared with the relevant staff and Governing Body. A copy of the completed assessment to be kept on file and copied to the Health & Safety Co-ordinator.