

COVID-19: Operational Risk Assessment



Prime Minister's announcement on the Living with COVID-19 plan

On 21.02.22 the Prime Minister has set out the next phase of the government's COVID-19 response 'Living with COVID-19'. COVID-19 continues to be a virus that we learn to live with and the imperative to reduce the disruption to children and young people's education remains.

Closure of the UKHSA advice service

Following the Prime Minister's announcement confirming that self-isolation is no longer a legal requirement following a positive test and the publication of the Living with COVID-19 plan, the UKHSA advice service will be decommissioned from 31 March 2022.

Assessment conducted by:	Julie Casswell	Job title:	Principal	Covered by this assessment	Staff, pupils, contractors, visitors, volunteers
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Date of assessment:	18 th April 2022	Review interval:	12 weeks	Date of next review:	18 th July 2022
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Related documents	
Trust/Local Authority documents:	<p>Government guidance:</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/emergency-planning-and-response-for-education-childcare-and-childrens-social-care-settings</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-attendance</p>

Risk matrix

Risk rating High (H), Medium (M), Low (L)		Likelihood of occurrence		
		Probable	Possible	Remote
Likely impact	Major: Causes major physical injury, harm or ill-health.	H	H	H
	Severe: Causes physical injury or illness requiring first aid.	H	M	L
	Minor: Causes physical or emotional discomfort.	M	L	L

Areas for concern	Risk rating prior to action (H/M/L)	Control measures	Action required / decisions made	Residual risk rating (H/M/L)
Changes to testing in education				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular asymptomatic testing is no longer recommended in any education or childcare setting, including in SEND, alternative provision and children's social care settings. 	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow the NHS guidance for changes to testing for COVID. Follow self-isolation guidance if symptoms displayed. 	<p>Follow DfE guidance.</p> <p>Refer to PHN advice for outbreaks.</p>	M
Changes to self-isolation and daily testing of close contacts				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No legal requirement to self-isolate when testing positive for COVID. 	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adults with the symptoms of a respiratory infection, and who have a high temperature or feel unwell, should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature. Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend. Adults with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days, which is when they are most infectious. Children and young people aged 18 and under with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days. 	<p>Follow DfE guidance.</p>	M

Improving natural ventilation

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor air circulation in class rooms, offices and shared spaces leads to infection transmission. 	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rooms are to be ventilated by opening windows to allow air flow whilst the room is occupied. If the temperature is too low and not conducive for learning with windows open, the door to the classroom must be left open for increased air flow and windows left open during break times. Don't close doors or windows completely when people are in a naturally ventilated area. This can result in very low levels of ventilation. Cooler, windier weather increases natural ventilation through openings. This means you don't need to open windows and doors so wide. Spaces where air conditioning is fitted can be used, we have been advised it is safe to do so. CO2 monitors to be placed in least ventilated areas and windows and doors to be opened further is the ventilation goes above 1500ppm Co2 concentration. 	<p>If a member of staff identifies an area that needs improvement, inform SLT so a review can be taken.</p> <p>If you identify an area that needs improvement, inform DAH from the Trust so a review can be taken.</p>	L
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Hand hygiene

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils forget to wash their hands regularly and frequently. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the school has enough hand washing or hand sanitiser 'stations' available so that all pupils and staff can clean their hands regularly. Supervision of hand sanitiser use given risks around ingestion. Small children and pupils with complex needs should continue to be helped to clean their hands properly. Building these routines into school culture, supported by behaviour expectations and helping ensure younger children and those with complex needs understand the need to follow them. 	<p>Staff must ensure that pupils clean their hands regularly.</p> <p>Regular and thorough hand cleaning is going to be needed for the foreseeable future.</p>	L
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Ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, kill it, bin it' approach

<ul style="list-style-type: none">Children and adults do not practice good hygiene.		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ensure you have enough tissues and bins available in the school to support pupils and staff to follow this routine.Staff must ensure younger children and those with complex needs are helped to get this right, and all pupils understand that this is now part of how school operates.	COVID19 information posters are in place. Regular reminders/ awareness for children. Posters will be displayed for: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Hand washingCatch It, Kill It, Bin It	L
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