

Christ Church (Church of England) Infant School and Nursery



Covid-19 Risk Assessment **March 2022**

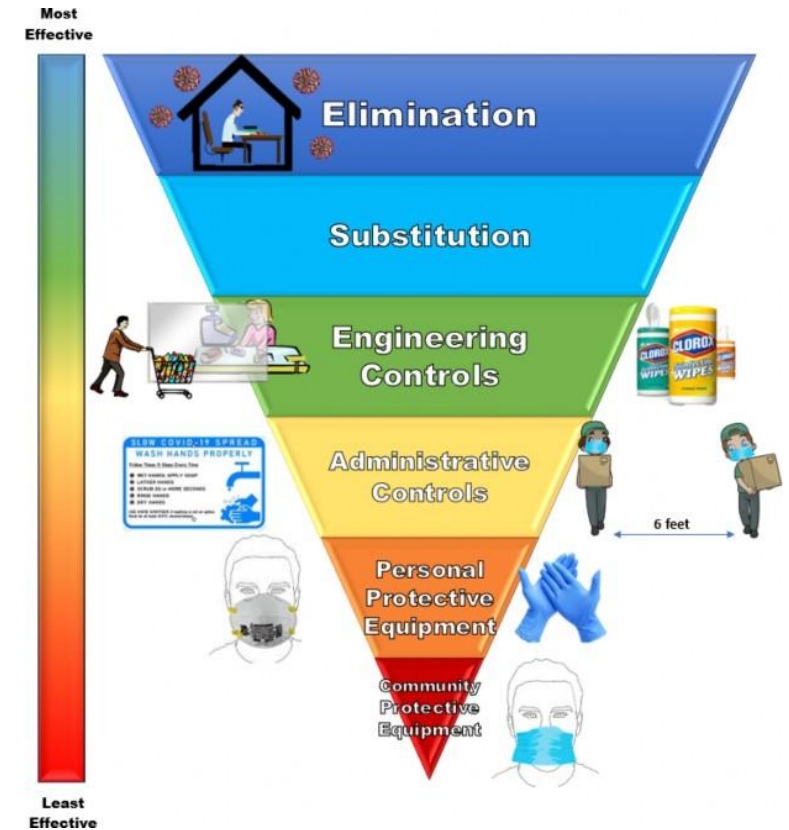
Covid-19 is a new illness that can affect your lungs and airways. It is caused by a virus called SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). Symptoms can be mild, moderate, severe or fatal.

Our plans for September 2021 have adhered to the following Government Guidance:

- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings](#)
- [COVID-19: cleaning in non-healthcare settings](#)
- [COVID 19 Operational Guidance – Action for Schools during the COVID Pandemic – Updated 17th August 2021](#)

The cross-infection control measures considered in the risk assessment below is based upon the following hierarchy of control:

- Elimination – Completely eliminating exposure to the hazard. The most effective control, e.g. stay home, work remotely, avoid public areas.
- Substitution – Replacing the hazard with a non-hazardous object, device or substance (none currently identified).
- Engineering Controls – Isolating the person from the hazard through physical or mechanical means e.g. barriers, partitions, ropes, hands free equipment etc.
- Administrative Controls – Changes made to the way that people work e.g. social distancing procedure, floor markings, cough / sneeze etiquette procedure, hand hygiene, cleaning and disinfection etc.
- Personal Protective Equipment – Equipment worn by the person to protect themselves from real or potential hazards, e.g. gloves, aprons, safety glasses, masks, etc.
- Community Protective equipment – Equipment worn by a person to prevent community spread from an asymptomatic carrier of COVID-19. This is the last line of defense and its effectiveness depends on community use and their ability to adopt disinfection, distancing, and hygiene practices (not considered in school risk assessment as beyond the control of a school).



Shared Responsibility

All staff are responsible for ensuring that they follow the instructions held within this Risk Assessment. They are also responsible for reporting to the senior leaders if other members of our school community are not adhering to or are breaching these requirements.

Title: Covid-19 Risk Assessment

Hazards	Who might be harmed	Controls Required	Risk Rating L/M/H	Additional Controls	Action By who	Action by when	Done
Spread of Covid-19 Coronavirus	<p>Staff</p> <p>Pupils</p> <p>Cleaners</p> <p>Contractors</p> <p>Visitors to your premises</p> <p>Vulnerable groups – Elderly, Pregnant workers, those with existing underlying health conditions</p> <p>Anyone else who physically comes in contact with you in relation to your operations</p>	<p><u>Promotion of good personal hygiene</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand washing facilities with soap and water (ideally warm water) in place. • Posters to be displayed throughout the school reminding pupils, staff and visitors to wash their hands, e.g. before entering and leaving the school. • Stringent hand washing taking place. (in accordance with this guidance). • Classes to teach children hand washing techniques. • Drying of hands with disposable paper towels. • Children to wash hands before eating a snack and before eating dinner. • Employees and pupils reminded to catch coughs and sneezes in tissues – Follow Catch it, Bin it, Kill it and wash hands and to avoid touching face, eyes, nose or mouth with unclean hands. • Tissues for each class and available throughout school, ensuring adequate stock levels for each class / office from the start of each day and are replenished as needed. • Appropriate receptacles for disposal of tissues which are emptied each day. • Pupils discouraged from sharing cutlery, cups or food. • Parents informed of hygiene expectations and to advise it is discussed with their children. • Parents informed that children are to wash their hands for 20 seconds before coming to school and when they get home. • Areas are kept well ventilated using natural ventilation where possible. Doors and windows should be opened at regular intervals during the day but not kept open continually to ensure a comfortable working environment. Children and 	M	<p>Hand wash available at all washing stations. Hand sanitiser available in all rooms for use by children when they enter the classroom.</p> <p>Boxes of tissues are available in every room and bins with sack liners that can be tied and sealed.</p> <p>Cutlery to be laid out by lunchtime staff. Pupils should not select cutlery from a shared location.</p>			

		<p>staff should not need to wear coats indoors. A comfortable teaching environment should be maintained.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Cleaning</u>• Cleaners are employed by the school / sourced via LA SLA to carry out daily thorough cleaning of classrooms and other areas that follows national guidance and is compliant with the COSHH policy and the H&S policy.• All cutlery and cups are thoroughly cleaned before and after use.• Crockery and cutlery used by staff must be washed immediately after use. Used items must not be left in classrooms or sinks. <p><u>Social Distancing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• School sends out regular clear messages that children, parents, carers or any visitors, such as suppliers are not to visit the education or childcare setting if they are displaying any symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19).• TEAMS must be active in classrooms at all times and used as the primary means of communication with the school office.• All communication on TEAMS chats between classrooms must be GDPR compliant. Sensitive or confidential information must not be shared using this system as it is displayed on the computer and classroom screen to be seen and read by pupils and colleagues. <p><u>Reducing contact point activities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carefully selected and assessed doors are propped open (bearing in mind fire safety and safeguarding risks), to limit use of door handles and aid ventilation but whilst maintaining a comfortable working environment.		<p>Cleaners use a chlorine based cleaning product.</p> <p>A surface sanitising cleaning fluid is available in each classroom and stored out of the reach of children.</p>			
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		<p><u>Dealing with a suspected case (staff and / or pupil)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Staff are informed of the symptoms of possible coronavirus infection, e.g. a cough, difficulty in breathing and high temperature, and are kept up-to-date with national guidance about the signs, symptoms and transmission of coronavirus.• If anyone becomes unwell with a new continuous cough or a high temperature in school they will be asked to take a LFT. Parents will be contacted to administer the test to pupils. If they test positive they will be required to follow the stay at home guidance. Children should only be sent home if they are too unwell to remain in school or receive a positive test result.• Staff and pupils are no longer required to self isolate if they are a close contact. Adults no longer need to take a LFT for 7 days if a household member is positive they should attend work as normal but wear a face covering for 7 days.• Each staff member will be issued with a box of LFT to be used in the event that they become unwell and suspect that it may be COVID. The test can be used to determine if this is the case. They can also be used for testing on day 5 and 6 in the event of a positive case.• Twice weekly testing is no longer required. Staff wishing to do this should source their own supply of tests through the NHS.• Masks and visors should not be worn within the setting unless you are a close contact. (See above) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Families returning from abroad will be required to follow the government advice relating to that country before returning to the school setting. <p>SYMPTOMS</p> <p>The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are a high temperature, a new, continuous cough and a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.</p>		School website, Marvellous Me, Text message.			
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	<p>The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)• a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)• a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal <p>Children who are unable to come to school due to COVID Restrictions will be able to access work each day through the school website – Work Portal.</p> <p>Families who do not have a device to access the work must inform the school office immediately so that arrangements to loan devices can be made or paper copies provided.</p> <p>FSM children must be provided with a voucher if they are required to isolate due to a positive test.</p> <p><u>Controlling other users of building (visitors / contractors)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The school will contact every user and inform them of usage expectations:• Compulsory handwashing / use of gel before entering school.• Restrictions or suspensions of building usage <p><u>Emergency procedures / PPE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All staff and pupils' emergency contact details are up-to-date, including alternative emergency contact details, where required.		<p>Additional Document provided.</p> <p>PPE required if;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a child, young person or other learner becomes unwell with symptoms of coronavirus while in their setting and needs direct personal care until they can return home. A face mask, gloves and apron should be worn by the supervising adult if a distance of 2 metres cannot be maintained. A sealed pack of PPE will be available in each classroom.• If a risk assessment determines that there is a risk of splashing to the eyes, for example from coughing, spitting, or vomiting, then eye protection should also be worn (<u>Coronavirus</u>			
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils' parents are contacted as soon as practicable in the event of an emergency. • Staff and pupils' alternative contacts are contacted where their primary emergency contact cannot be contacted. • The school has an up-to-date First Aid Policy in place which outlines the management of medical emergencies – medical emergencies are managed in line with this policy. • All medical waste must be double bagged and disposed of. • Used PPE to be double bagged and disposed of. • Hands must be washed thoroughly when removing PPE. • When dealing with a toileting incident the staff member must wear PPE. The child's soiled clothes must be double bagged and sent home. <p><u>Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)</u></p> <p><i>Note: Public Health guidance on the use of PPE to protect against COVID-19 relates to health care settings, in all other settings individuals are asked to observe social distancing measures and practice good hand hygiene behaviours. <u>Therefore, for mainstream school's face masks, gloves, aprons etc would not be needed.</u> The majority of staff will not require PPE beyond what they would normally require i.e. where schools require PPE as part of business as usual activity (e.g. gloves and aprons for intimate care needs) then an adequate supply is to be in place.</i></p>		<p><u>(COVID-19): implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings).</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gloves, aprons, masks should be carefully removed to reduce contamination and disposed of safely. 			
Teacher / staff shortage		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School monitors daily any staff absence. 	H	If there are any shortages of teachers or to allow the			

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Everyone is instructed to monitor themselves and others and look out for similar symptoms if a pupil or staff member tests positive. Daily report to the EHT on number of absences and symptoms. Weekly summary data for each class to EHT. Staff do not return to school before the minimum recommended exclusion period of 5 days has passed, in line with national guidance and two consecutive negative test result have been confirmed/ or 10 days whichever is sooner. 		efficient running of the school, teaching assistants can be allocated to lead a group, working under the direction of a teacher.			
Impact on physical and mental health		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Line managers will offer support to staff who are affected by Coronavirus or has a family member affected. Management will promote mental health & wellbeing awareness to staff during the Coronavirus outbreak and will offer whatever support they can to help. Regular communication of mental health information (e.g. H&S schools newsletter May edition wellbeing special) and has an open-door policy for those who need additional support. Brief staff on risks arising from using Display Screen Equipment (DSE), lone working and stress related issues whilst working from home. 	M				
Curriculum							
Through mixing of clothing when changing	Pupils	Pupils will come to school in their PE kit on timetabled days to reduce items coming in from home and the risk of children mixing clothing.	L				
Food in School other than lunch boxes.	Staff and Pupils	Children are allowed to bring commercially sealed bags of sweets for birthday celebrations. Unwrapped food items that have not been commercially produced and sealed cannot be given/shared with the children for any reason.	L	Staff should also follow food in school procedures			

Visitors in School						
Spread of COVID 19	Pupils and staff	Visitors to school will be allowed with pre booked appointments such as Social workers, Speech Therapists etc. . They will be required to sanitise their hands on entry.	L			

Considerations for additional control measures:

Reduce mixing within education or childcare setting by:

- accessing rooms directly from outside where possible.

Use outside space:

- for exercise and breaks.
- for outdoor education, where possible, as this can limit transmission and more easily allow for distance between children and staff.

Reduce the use of shared resources:

- by limiting the amount of shared resources that are taken home and limit exchange of take-home resources between children, young people and staff.
- by seeking to prevent the sharing of stationery and other equipment where possible. Shared materials and surfaces should be cleaned and disinfected more frequently.

Additional considerations:

Effective communication is key and cannot be under estimated. Please ensure;

- Everyone is reminded of public health advice and any updates in this fast-changing situation.
- Everyone is vigilant and instructed to monitor themselves and others and look out for similar symptoms if a pupil or staff member has been sent home with a positive test result.
- Schools keep staff, pupils and parents adequately updated about any changes to infection control procedures as necessary.
- Schools publish their completed risk assessment on their website.
- Schools consult staff on the risk assessment process and share key findings from the risk assessment process with all staff and empower and encourage staff to communicate any matters of concern / any areas for improvement.