



Risk Assessment

Establishment operation from 1 November 2021: response to Coronavirus (COVID-19). Issue 6.2 (Further detail is captured in the Background and Context description below)

Section 1:

Date of Assessment: 1 st November	MAT/Establishment/Section/Team: Chew Valley School	Review date: (Complete once the action plan section below is addressed)	
Assessed by: Please print names of all those involved with this assessment.	Gareth Beynon	Date:	
	Kate Rowlands		
	Julie Seeley		
	Sheila Williams		
Staff signatures: I/We have read and understood this RA and our role in its implementation.	1.	Date:	
	2.		
	3.		
	4.		

Part A: Background and Context

This risk assessment has been developed with reference to:

- settings Covid-19 operational guidance (July 2021) [settings COVID-19 operational guidance \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/95427/settings-COVID-19-operational-guidance.pdf).
- Actions for early years and childcare providers during the COVID-19 pandemic (July 2021) [Early years and childcare: coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/95427/early-years-and-childcare-coronavirus-COVID-19-GOV.UK.pdf)
- SEND and specialist settings: additional COVID-19 operational guidance (6 July 2021) [SEND and specialist settings - additional operational guidance: COVID-19 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/95427/SEND-and-specialist-settings-additional-operational-guidance-COVID-19.pdf)

Rationale for guidance for schools from September 2021.

Government guidance has been developed on the premise that disruption to children and young people's education must be minimised. The [Evidence summary: COVID-19 - children, young people and education settings - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/95427/evidence-summary-COVID-19-children-young-people-and-education-settings-GOV.UK.pdf) sets out the evidence relevant to, and in support of, the government's decision to revise the guidance on the COVID-19 safe working and protective measures that have been used within schools, colleges and early years settings in England during the pandemic.

In making this decision, the government has balanced education and public health considerations - weighing the impact of these measures on teaching, educational attainment, the health and wellbeing of children, pupils, students and staff and the functioning of schools, colleges and early years settings, against the COVID-19 risks in a context that has now fundamentally changed due to the success of the vaccination programme.

As at the 28th October we are adapting this risk assessment to take into consideration advice issued by their local Public Health Team and other updates relevant to our activities and experience in practice.

Contingency Planning

Government guidance requires schools to have an Outbreak Management Plan (sometimes called contingency plan) outlining how they would operate if any of the following circumstances applied to their school or area.

- a COVID-19 outbreak within a school
- if there is extremely high prevalence of COVID-19 in the community and other measures have failed to reduce transmission

- as part of a package of measures responding to a Variant of Concern (VoC)

This includes how we would ensure every child, pupil or student receives the quantity and quality of education and care to which they are normally entitled.

If necessary we will reinstate relevant control measures from one of our 2020-21 risk assessment to address the areas set out in [Contingency framework: education and childcare settings - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/contingency-framework-education-and-childcare-settings)

Control Measures

This risk assessment addresses the essential control measures set out in the government guidance referred to above. They are as follows:

1. Ensure good hygiene for everyone.
2. Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes.
3. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.
4. Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.

We have adapted this risk assessment in consultation with relevant partners including trade union representatives where available. This risk assessment will be made publicly available to those who wish to see it.

Part B:

What is the Task/Activity or Environment you are assessing?	What Hazards are present or may be generated? (Use a row for each one identified)	Who is affected or exposed to hazards?	What Severity of Harm can reasonably be expected? (See Table 1)	What Precautions (Existing Controls) are already in place to either eliminate or reduce the risk of an accident happening?	What Likelihood is there of an accident occurring? (See Table 1)	What is the Risk Rating? (See Table 2 and 3)
1: ENSURE GOOD HYGIENE FOR EVERYONE						
Hand hygiene	Poor hand hygiene increases the likelihood of infection from coronavirus	Pupils and staff	Serious	Opportunities are provided for staff and pupils to clean their hands with hand sanitiser or with soap and water and dry thoroughly: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● on arrival at school ● after using the toilet ● after breaks and sporting activities ● before food preparation ● before eating any food, including snacks ● before leaving school ● after sneezing/coughing. Signage about how to wash hands properly, is on display and reinforced with pupils. Supervision by staff is provided as needed.	Low	Low
Respiratory Hygiene	Poor respiratory hygiene increases the likelihood of infection from exposure to coronavirus.	Pupils and staff	Serious	Catch it, kill it, Bin it - tissues are available in all classrooms, staffroom and reception at a minimum. The message is reinforced with pupils.	Low	Low

				Covered bins are available for the disposal of used tissues.		
2. MAINTAIN APPROPRIATE CLEANING REGIMES						
Cleaning	Person contracts COVID 19 as a result of inadequate cleaning	Pupils and staff	Serious	<p>We have reviewed the cleaning arrangements set out below to ensure that all high risk areas are covered in our cleaning schedule.</p> <p>We have reviewed the cleaning specification with our cleaning contractor to ensure that this meets requirements set out in https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings</p> <p>Where our own cleaners and/or additional staff are required to undertake cleaning duties we have ensured that they have received appropriate training and are provided with PPE, as set out in guidelines above. This also applies to other staff who may be asked to carry out cleaning duties during this period.</p> <p>We have identified cleaning of high-risk areas to be undertaken throughout the school day to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Door handles ● Kettles ● Taps ● Switches ● Phones ● Laptops / ● Printers and photocopiers ● Staffroom/ food preparation ● Bathrooms ● Surfaces that pupils are touching e.g.: toys, books, chairs, tables, doors, sinks, toilets, bannisters, light switches, etc. 	Medium	

				<p>As a minimum, frequently touched surfaces will be wiped down twice a day, and one of these should be at the beginning or the end of the working day.</p> <p>Janitorial services will be available during the school day.</p>		
Safe use of cleaning products	<p>Inappropriate exposure to cleaning product results in allergic reaction/ poisoning etc Storage arrangements of cleaning product change increasing potential for unauthorised 'use' by pupils.</p>	Pupils and staff	Serious	<p>All staff involved in cleaning duties will receive training re: safe use and storage of cleaning materials.</p> <p>PPE will be provided for all cleaning activities.</p> <p>Safety data sheets for cleaning products are available.</p> <p>Only recommended cleaning products will be used.</p>	Low	Low
	<p>Use of hand sanitiser: potential for improper use and ingestion.</p>	Pupils and staff	Serious	<p>We are providing/allowing the use of hand sanitisers that contain at least 60% alcohol.</p> <p>Staff supervision is provided as required.</p> <p>We have obtained the Safety Data Sheet for the product(s). They advise on action to be followed if the sanitiser is not used as designed i.e., a child drinks some; it gets in eyes etc.</p> <p>This will also help with potential reactions to the product.</p> <p>We have and will secure adequate supplies of the product and provide it, especially in areas such as reception to the buildings.</p> <p>Hand sanitiser bottles will be cleaned as necessary to avoid clogging.</p>	Low	Low

3. KEEP OCCUPIED SPACES WELL VENTILATED						
Ventilation (Open windows and doors are recommended as a means of improving air circulation within the building)	Falls from height (open windows)	All premises occupants	Serious	Whilst taking into consideration the necessity to increase ventilation by improving air circulation within the building we have advised staff that window opening restrictors must not be removed.	Low	Low
	Additional doors and windows are left open compromising site security/fire safety.	All premises occupants	Serious	<p>We have reviewed our site and identified windows and doors that could remain open without compromising fire safety/ and or security.</p> <p>For high-risk areas such as kitchens and boiler rooms, fire doors will be kept in the closed position. Lower risk rooms such as classrooms and offices may be propped open with removeable items - a weight or wedge. There are people present who are tasked with removing the item if the alarm goes off and at the end of the day.</p> <p>Door guards etc, will continue to be used to improve circulation in the building (and also reduce the need for touching the door handles).</p>	Low	Low
	Inadequate ventilation contributes towards the spread of coronavirus. Open windows in the winter months mean that the temperature in buildings is uncomfortable.	All premises occupants	Serious	<p>We will ensure that our buildings are heated to a temperature whereby staff and pupils can work comfortably whilst endeavouring to ensure that there are measures in place to ensure good ventilation.</p> <p>This will be achieved by a variety of measures including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> mechanical ventilation systems - these have been adjusted to increase the ventilation rate wherever possible, and checked to confirm that normal operation meets current guidance (if possible, systems should be adjusted to full fresh 	Medium	Medium

				<p>air or, if not, then systems should be operated as normal as long as they are within a single room and supplemented by an outdoor air supply).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • natural ventilation - opening windows (in cooler weather windows will be opened just enough to provide constant background ventilation, and opened more fully during breaks to purge the air in the space). Opening internal doors can also assist with creating a throughput of air. • natural ventilation - if necessary external opening doors may also be used (as long as they are not fire doors and where safe to do so). <p>We note the following advice from HSE: https://www.hse.gov.uk/temperature/thermal/managers.htm https://www.cibse.org/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus,-sars-cov-2,-covid-19-and-hvac-systems</p> <p>NB: Minimum workplace temperature is 16 degrees centigrade.</p> <p>To balance the need for increased ventilation while maintaining a comfortable temperature, the following measures will also be used as appropriate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • opening high level windows in preference to low level to reduce draughts. • increasing the ventilation while spaces are unoccupied (e.g., between classes, during break and lunch, when a room is unused) • providing flexibility to allow additional, suitable indoor clothing. Including advising staff and pupils re: the value of layering clothing. • rearranging furniture where possible to avoid direct drafts 		
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	<p>Use of CO2 monitors. Poor positioning of CO2 monitor gives inaccurate or misleading readings</p>	<p>All premises occupants</p>	<p>Serious</p>	<p>We note CO2 levels vary within an indoor space. We will place CO2 monitors at head height and away from windows, doors, or air supply openings.</p> <p>Monitors will also be positioned at least 50cm away from people as their exhaled breath contains CO2. If monitors are too close, they may give a misleadingly high reading.</p> <p>Measurements within a space can vary during the day due to changes in numbers of occupants, activities, or ventilation rates. Doors and windows being open or closed can also have an effect.</p> <p>The amount of CO2 in the air is measured in parts per million (ppm). If our measurements in an occupied space seem very low (far below 400ppm) or very high (over 1500ppm), it's possible our monitor is in the wrong location. We will move it to another location in the space to get a more accurate reading.</p> <p>Instantaneous or 'snapshot' CO2 readings can be misleading. We will take several measurements throughout the day frequently enough to represent changes in use of the room or space. Then calculate an average value for the occupied period.</p> <p>We note the need to repeat monitoring at different times of the year, as outdoor temperatures change, and this will affect worker behaviour relating to opening windows and doors when your space relies on natural ventilation.</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Low</p>

				Our readings will help us decide if a space is adequately ventilated. We will record and retain these readings.		
	Inaccurate reading of CO2 monitors leads to misinterpretation of ventilation levels within a room.	All premises occupants	Serious	<p>We will</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check our monitors are calibrated before making CO2 measurements. Follow the manufacturer’s instructions, including the appropriate warm-up time for the device to stabilise. • Know how to use our portable monitors correctly, including the time needed to provide a reading. • Take multiple measurements in occupied areas to identify a suitable sampling location to give a representative measurement for the space. In larger spaces it is likely that more than one sampling location will be required. • Take measurements at key times throughout the working day and for a minimum of one full working day to ensure our readings represent normal use and occupancy. • Record CO2 readings, number of occupants, the type of ventilation we’re using at the time and the date. These numbers will help us use the CO2 records to decide if an area is poorly ventilated 	Low	Low
	Inadequate response to CO2 monitor readings	All premises occupants	Serious	CO2 measurements will be used as a broad guide to ventilation within a space rather than treating them as ‘safe thresholds’.	Low	Low

				<p>We note that outdoor levels are around 400ppm and indoors a consistent CO2 value less than 800ppm is likely to indicate that a space is well ventilated.</p> <p>An average of 1500ppm CO2 concentration over the occupied period in a space is an indicator of poor ventilation. We will take action to improve ventilation where CO2 readings are consistently higher than 1500ppm.</p> <p>However, where there is continuous talking or singing, or high levels of physical activity (such as dancing, playing sport or exercising), providing ventilation sufficient to keep CO2 levels below 800ppm is recommended.</p> <p>Identifying poorly ventilated areas and using CO2 monitors (hse.gov.uk)</p> <p>DfE 'How to' Use CO2 monitors in education and childcare settings RP24.2 How to Use CO₂ monitors in education and childcare settings.pdf - Google Drive</p>		
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4. FOLLOW PUBLIC HEALTH ADVICE ON TESTING, SELF ISOLATION AND MANAGING CONFIRMED CASES OF COVID-19

Engagement with the NHS Test and Trace Process. Access to testing	Failure to follow PHE/ NHS Test and Trace procedures increases the likelihood of exposure to coronavirus in the school community.	Pupils and staff	Serious	<p>Relevant staff understand the NHS Test and Trace process and how to contact their local Public Health England health protection team.</p> <p>Anyone identified by NHS Test and Trace as needing to self-isolate will not be permitted to enter school premises.</p> <p>Where necessary we will direct members of the school community with symptoms of coronavirus to Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus (COVID-19) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</p>	Medium	Medium
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				<p>Home test kits are available in our school and will be offered in the exceptional circumstance that we believe an individual may have barriers to accessing testing elsewhere. We note that it is for schools to determine how to prioritise the distribution of their test kits in order to minimise the impact of the virus on the education of their pupils, and will therefore provide these to staff or pupils on the basis of an agreed set of criteria to be determined by the school.</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-home-test-kits-for-settings-and-fe-providers/coronavirus-covid-19-home-test-kits-for-settings-and-fe-providers</p> <p>We will ask parents and staff to inform us immediately of the results of a test.</p>		
Contact with infected persons/ exposure to the virus within the school.	Person contracts coronavirus as a result of direct contact with an infected person (or a symptomatic person) entering the premises.	Pupils and staff	Serious	<p>Guidance has been issued to the entire school community.</p> <p>If anyone in the school tests positive for COVID-19 or becomes unwell with a new and persistent cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they must be stay at home and are advised to follow guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection:</p> <p>Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</p> <p>Anyone identified by NHS Test and Trace as needing to self-isolate will not be permitted to enter school premises.</p>	Medium	Medium

				<p>From 16 August 2021 Individuals are not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19, and any of the following apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • they are fully vaccinated • 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 <p>Instead, they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a <u>PCR test</u>. We encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so.</p> <p>Staff who do not need to isolate, and children and young people aged under 18 years 6 months who usually attend school, and have been identified as a close contact, should continue to attend school as normal. They do not need to wear a face covering within the school, but it is expected and recommended that these are worn when travelling on public or dedicated transport.</p>		
Contact with those developing symptoms of the virus during the working day.	Pupils and staff	Serious	<p>If anyone in our school develops COVID-19 symptoms, however mild, they will be sent home and advised to get a PCR test and follow public health advice.</p> <p>When to self-isolate and what to do - Coronavirus (COVID-19) - NHS (www.nhs.uk)</p>	Medium	Medium	

				<p>Most recent guidance re: What to do if a pupil is displaying signs of coronavirus has been shared with relevant staff and is on display.</p> <p>If a child is awaiting collection, they will be moved, via a route involving the shortest possible internal distance (i.e., including an outside route where possible) if possible, to the Medical Room where they can be isolated behind a closed door, depending on the age of the child and with appropriate adult supervision if required. Ideally, a window will be opened for ventilation. If it is not possible to isolate them, we will move them to an area which is at least 2 metres away from other people. We have produced a plan to show the shortest routes possible and shared this with staff.</p> <p>If they need to go to the bathroom while waiting to be collected, we endeavour that they will use a separate bathroom if possible. The bathroom will be cleaned and disinfected using standard cleaning products before being used by anyone else.</p> <p>PPE will be worn by staff caring for the child while they await collection if a distance of 2 metres cannot be maintained (such as for a very young child or a child with complex needs).</p> <p>In an emergency we will call 999 if they are seriously ill or injured or their life is at risk. We will not suggest a visit to the GP, pharmacy, urgent care centre or a hospital.</p> <p>Staff are instructed to wash their hands thoroughly for 20 seconds after any contact with someone who is unwell. We will clean the affected area with normal household disinfectant after someone with symptoms has left to reduce the risk of passing the infection on to other people. See</p>		
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				https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings		
Lateral Flow Testing (Asymptomatic testing)	Non participation in Lateral Flow Testing means that asymptomatic cases are undetected within the school community.	Pupils and staff	Serious	<p>The opportunity for all adults in England to participate in lateral flow testing has been publicised amongst the school community.</p> <p>Regular rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) tests if you do not have symptoms - NHS (www.nhs.uk)</p> <p>Our school workforce (including regular contractors and visitors) are encouraged, and been provided with sufficient testing kits, to participate in lateral flow testing twice a week at home.</p> <p>This arrangement also applies to all secondary pupils once two lateral flow tests have been completed at school (3-5 days apart). There is a process in place to ensure that all secondary school students are provided with sufficient home testing kits.</p> <p>We have sufficient test kits available to provide additional kits to staff and pupils (in Secondary schools) in the event they are recommended to increase the frequency of testing (eg: in the case of a local outbreak).</p>	Medium	Medium
	Lateral Flow Testing process is not implemented correctly leading to inaccurate results and/or inadequate follow up of positive test results	Pupils and staff	Serious	<p>See Appendix 1 for the separate risk assessment that is in place to cover the arrangements for Lateral Flow Testing.</p> <p>Confirmatory PCR tests</p> <p>Staff or pupils with a positive LFD test result must self-isolate in line with the stay-at-home guidance. They will also need to arrange a lab-based polymerase chain</p>	Medium	Medium

				reaction (PCR) test to confirm the result. If the PCR test is taken within 2 days of the positive lateral flow test, and is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD test and the member of staff or pupil can return to school.		
Management of confirmed cases of coronavirus	<p>Failure to follow PHE/ NHS Track and Trace procedures increases the likelihood of exposure to coronavirus in the school community.</p> <p>Anxiety and dissent within the school community</p>	Pupils and staff	Serious	<p>We note that close contacts of those testing positive with coronavirus will be identified via NHS Test and Trace. We note that we may be contacted in exceptional cases to identify close contacts.</p> <p>We are no longer required to collect contact details, or keep records of our staff and visitors. However, we will follow advice to continue to display an NHS QR code for participants wishing to check in using the app, to support NHS Test and Trace.</p> <p>We will continue to have a system to collect (and securely store) names and contact details for those who ask to check in but do not have the app.</p> <p>We will not turn visitors away if they refuse to check in.</p> <p>We note the thresholds, detailed below, can be used by settings as an indication for when to seek public health advice if they are concerned. For most education and childcare settings, whichever of these thresholds is reached first:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 children, pupils, students or staff, who are likely to have mixed closely, test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period; or • 10% of children, pupils, students or staff who are likely to have mixed closely test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period. 	Medium	Medium

				<p>We will seek public health advice if a pupil or staff member is admitted to hospital with COVID-19. Hospitalisation could indicate increased severity of illness or a new variant of concern.</p> <p>Alternatively, we will call the Department for Education’s existing coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline number on 0800 046 8687, and selecting option 1. The advice service is open Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm and 10am to 4pm on Saturdays and Sundays. The call will be with a dedicated team of advisors who will inform the school of what action is needed based on the latest public health advice.</p> <p>For all cases relating to staff, see the guidance for workplaces: NHS Test and Trace in the workplace Employers should call the Self-Isolation Service Hub on: 020 3743 6715 as soon as they are made aware that any of their workers have tested positive. If cases amongst staff mean a setting meets the threshold, described above, employers will need to provide the 8-digit NHS Test and Trace Account ID (sometimes referred to as a CTAS number) of the person who tested positive, alongside the names of co-workers identified as close contacts. This will ensure that all workplace contacts are registered with NHS Test and Trace and can receive the necessary public health advice, including the support available to help people to self-isolate.</p> <p>Where applicable we will advise temporary staff of their entitlement to Test and Trace Support Payments, noting that this support is only for the temporary staff who schools decide not to engage in home working and who are not being paid during self-isolation. To be eligible for a Test and Trace Support Payment, the individual must be living in England, meet the</p>		
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				<p>eligibility criteria and be formally advised to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace, who will provide the individual with an NHS Test and Trace Account ID. We will also extend this advice to parents/ carers of children who have been asked to self-isolate as they may be applicable for this payment in some cases. Claiming financial support under the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</p>		
NHS COVID-19 App	Inadequate response to alerts provided by use of NHS COVID-19 App	Pupils and staff	Serious	<p>We have informed all staff and students to inform a member of staff if they receive a notification during the day that they had been in contact with a positive case. To support this, the notification itself will advise them that if they are under the age of 18, they should show the message to a trusted adult and obtain a PCR test.</p> <p>The staff member will then put in place the setting's agreed process, including making appropriate arrangements for the member of staff/student to leave the setting at the earliest opportunity to begin self-isolation (if unvaccinated staff member) or recommend that a PCR test is obtained at the earliest opportunity.</p> <p>Where staff are required to keep their phones in lockers etc during the working day we have advised them to turn the tracking off whilst they are not in close proximity to their phone.</p>	Medium	Medium
Vaccination of students (secondary schools only)	Students are unable to be vaccinated at school leading to increased rates of infection and disruption to education.	Students and staff	Serious	<p>We have measures in place to administer the programme as set out in the guidance below.</p> <p>COVID-19 vaccination programme for children and young people: guidance for schools - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</p>	Low	Low

	School is targeted by those opposed to the vaccination programme. Potential for injury or distress within the school community.	Students and staff	Serious	<p>We have discussed potential alternative entry/access routes to the site which could be deployed if necessary to bypass any protestors.</p> <p>Concerns are shared with the police (101) or 999 for criminal behaviour.</p> <p>A media statement is prepared.</p> <p>Staff are briefed on their roles in potential interaction with protestors bearing in mind our site is private, minimising disruption and supporting any pupils distressed by demonstration.</p>	Medium	Medium
Containing any local outbreak	Disruption to pupils' education	Pupils and staff	Serious	We have developed arrangements to ensure that the education of affected groups of pupils is maintained in the event of increased restrictions or closure. This will include the provision of remote learning	Medium	Medium
	Parents/carers of a child with symptoms of coronavirus refuse to keep them at home.	Pupils and staff	Serious	<p>We note government guidance:</p> <p>'If a parent or carer of a pupil with coronavirus or with a suspected case of coronavirus insists on their child attending our school, we will take the decision to refuse the pupil if, in our reasonable judgement, it is necessary to protect other pupils and staff from possible infection with COVID-19.</p> <p>'Our decision will be carefully considered in light of all the circumstances and current public health advice.'</p>	Medium	Medium
5. GENERAL						
Use of face coverings	Failure to use face covering in crowded areas increases the likelihood of exposure to coronavirus in the school community.	Students and staff	Serious	Government guidance from 19 July 2021 is as follows: <i>Government expects and recommends that people wear face coverings in crowded areas such as public transport</i> ".	Medium	Medium

				<p>Moving to step 4 of the roadmap - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</p> <p>Whilst face coverings are no longer mandatory in schools, we recognise the high infection rate in our area at the current time and as a result are reintroducing the use of face coverings for all staff and adult visitors in situations outside of classrooms where social distancing is difficult (for example, indoors when moving around in corridors and communal areas).</p> <p>Where students in year 7 (which would be children who were aged 11 on 31 August 2021) and above are educated, we are also reintroducing face coverings for students when moving around the premises, outside of classrooms, such as in corridors and communal areas where social distancing cannot easily be maintained. Face coverings do not need to be worn by students when outdoors on the premises.</p> <p>In addition to the above, any member of staff or pupil may wear a face covering in any further situation at their own discretion.</p> <p>NB: The further use of face coverings could be reinstated as part of our Contingency Plan e.g. for staff that move between bubbles or groups (See Part A).</p> <p>We have advised staff that face visors or shields should not routinely be worn as an alternative to face coverings. They may protect against droplet spread in specific circumstances but are unlikely to be effective in preventing aerosol transmission, and therefore in a school environment are unlikely to offer appropriate protection to the wearer.</p>		
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				<p>We have asked parents/carers to wear face coverings outside where it is not possible to maintain a 2m social distance.</p> <p>The Lighthouse Schools Partnership are taking this approach at all schools in the Trust.</p> <p>This approach has been explained to parents/ carers in newsletters, via text message and is clearly signposted within the school grounds.</p> <p>In cases of non-compliance the member of SLT on duty will remind those not wearing masks of the requirement to do so. In the case of continued non-compliance this will be followed up by a letter reiterating our approach. Further non-compliance will lead to the headteacher sending a Final Warning Letter. As a last resort the headteacher and in the case of further non-cooperation, in consultation with the MAT/LA, will consider the potential of approaching DS and activating the 'Landlord Right' to warn the parent/carer and then, if necessary, proportionately ban them from the school site, backed by potential criminal sanction under section 547 of the Education Act 1996.</p> <p>On dedicated transport we note government guidance that recommends children and young people aged 11 and over continue to wear a face covering when travelling to secondary school or college. Dedicated transport to schools and colleges COVID-19 operational guidance - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</p>		
Safe wearing and removal of face coverings	Potential of contamination if face coverings are removed or disposed of incorrectly.	Students and staff	Serious	A process is in place for removing face coverings when those who use face coverings arrive at school, and when face coverings are worn at school in certain circumstances. This process has been communicated clearly to students and staff.	Medium	Medium

				<p>Safe wearing of face coverings requires cleaning of hands before and after touching – including to remove or put them on – and the safe storage of them in individual, sealable plastic bags between use. Where a face covering becomes damp, it should not be worn and the face covering should be replaced carefully.</p> <p>Students will be instructed not to touch the front of their face covering during use or when removing it and they must dispose of temporary face coverings in a 'black bag' waste bin (not recycling bin) or place reusable face coverings in a plastic bag they can take home with them, and then wash their hands again before heading to their classroom.</p>		
	<p>Students/ staff do not have face covering. Face covering is damaged or otherwise unsuitable for use.</p>	<p>Students and staff</p>	<p>Serious</p>	<p>Requirements for students to have a face covering will be communicated to parents/carers.</p> <p>It is reasonable to assume that staff and young people will now have access to face coverings due to their increasing use in wider society, and Public Health England has made available resources on how to make a simple face covering.</p> <p>However, where anybody is struggling to access a face covering, or where they are unable to use their face covering due to having forgotten it or it having become soiled or unsafe, we will take steps to have a small contingency supply available to meet such needs. No-one should be excluded from education on the grounds that they are not wearing a face covering.</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Medium</p>
	<p>Students, staff or visitors exempt from wearing a face covering</p>	<p>Students, Staff and Visitors</p>	<p>Serious</p>	<p>Some individuals are exempt from wearing face coverings. This applies to those who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> cannot put on, wear or remove a face covering because of a physical or mental illness or impairment or disability 	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Medium</p>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • speak to or provide assistance to someone who relies on lip reading, clear sound or facial expression to communicate <p>The same exemptions will apply in our school; we will ensure that staff and students are aware of this and are sensitive to those needs.</p>		
Use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) (A face covering is not PPE because they are not designed to protect the wearer from infection from coronavirus).	Incorrect use exacerbates the risk of further infection.	Pupils and staff	Serious	<p>The majority of staff in education settings will not require PPE beyond what they would normally need for their work. PPE is only needed in a very small number of cases including:</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 should continue to receive their care in the same way • if a child, young person or other learner becomes unwell with symptoms of coronavirus while in school and needs direct personal care until they can return home. A fluid-resistant surgical face mask should be worn by the supervising adult if a distance of 2 metres cannot be maintained. If contact with the child or young person is necessary, then disposable gloves, a disposable apron and a fluid-resistant surgical face mask should be worn by the supervising adult. 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” <p>Any staff that wish to use PPE outside of the scenarios listed above will be provided with PPE by the school on request or permitted to use their own appropriate PPE. Staff should discuss this with their line manager.</p> <p>We are using our local supply chains to obtain PPE.</p>	Low	Low

				<p>We will ensure that, staff who are likely to have to support pupils in the circumstances identified above and potentially in the administration of some first aid have access to appropriate equipment and training in its correct use and disposal.</p> <p>See: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/911313/PHE_quick_guide_to_donning_doffing_PPE_standard_health_and_social_care_settings.pdf</p>		
Staff wellbeing	Staff anxiety re: potential exposure to the virus.	All staff	Serious	<p>Where necessary, individual discussions are held with staff to identify concerns. (NB: recognising that some could be experiencing bereavement, mental health issues, etc.).</p> <p>We have signposted to relevant counselling services. Including the Education Support Partnership which provides a free helpline for school staff and targeted support for mental health and wellbeing. HR advice is available if required.</p> <p>We are working with the trade unions. https://www.hse.gov.uk/news/assets/docs/talking-with-your-workers.pdf</p>	Medium	Medium
Staff training (including induction for supply teachers and other visiting staff).	Staff are not aware or do not understand the requirements for working safely.	All staff	Serious	<p>Training and written instruction were provided re: operating procedures outlined in this risk assessment to all staff on 3rd November.</p> <p>This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What to do if they suspect that they or a member of their household has coronavirus (including testing arrangements), • Day to day organisations and procedures including arrangements for cleaning, 	Low	Low

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedures to follow if they suspect that a child in their group is displaying coronavirus symptoms, • Site security and fire safety including evacuation and lockdown procedures. • Use of PPE (where applicable). 		
Individual staff requirements	Concerns from staff in identified work groups	Clinically extremely vulnerable	Fatal/ Major	<p>We have taken note of government guidance issued on 28/09/21, namely: Guidance on protecting people who are clinically extremely vulnerable from COVID-19 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</p> <p>We will continue to discuss with CEV employees how they can be supported to carry out their duties in the workplace.</p>	Medium	Low
	Concerns from staff in identified work groups	Pregnant women	Serious	<p>We will follow the specific guidance for pregnant employees because pregnant women are considered CV. In some cases, pregnant women may also have other health conditions that mean they are considered CEV, where the advice for clinically extremely vulnerable staff will apply. We will follow the same principles for pregnant pupils, in line with our wider health and safety obligations. NB Further guidance and advice on coronavirus (COVID-19) and pregnancy from the Royal College of Gynaecologists.</p>	Medium	Medium
Use of volunteers	Potential for the introduction of coronavirus into the school	Pupils & Staff	Serious	<p>Volunteers may be used to support the work of the school, as would usually be the case. All volunteers will be expected to follow our control measures to reduce the spread of coronavirus.</p>	Low	Low

Management of expectations within the school community	Anxiety within the school's community re: prevalence and effectiveness of infection control measures.	All members of the school community	Serious	Our communication with parents and pupils prior to our return in September 2021 will include information about the control measures within this risk assessment. Government guidance for parents is available at: What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, settings and colleges - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)	Low	Low
Individual pupil medical requirements	Increased likelihood of serious illness resulting from exposure to coronavirus.	Extremely clinically vulnerable pupils (shielded)	Fatal/ Major	All CEV pupils should attend school unless they are one of the very small number of pupils under paediatric or other specialist care and have been advised by their GP or clinician not to attend. Where a pupil is unable to attend our school because they are complying with clinical or public health advice, we will immediately offer them access to remote education. We will keep a record of, and monitor engagement with, this activity but this does not need to be formally recorded in the attendance register. Where children are not able to attend our school, as parents are following clinical and/or public health advice, absence will not be penalised.	Low	Medium
Provision of first aid	Inadequate first aid treatment exacerbates injury or pre-existing conditions.	Pupils and staff	Serious	We will revert to our substantive risk assessment which includes control measures to ensure that suitably qualified staff are available at all times.	Low	Low
Administration of medication	Illness or injury to those who are unable to access their medication	Pupils and staff	Fatal/ major	School procedures for the administration of prescription and controlled medication will continue to apply.	Low	Low
Lettings	School control measures re: cleaning etc are compromised	Pupils Staff	Serious	We will ensure that all users of our premises adhere to the control measures set out in this risk assessment.	Medium	Medium

	leading to increased risk of infection, expense and possible reputational damage.	Wider community		<p>This will include ensuring that effective cleaning is maintained and additional ventilation measures do not compromise site security.</p> <p>Where opening up school leisure facilities for external use, we will do so in line with government guidance on working safely during coronavirus (COVID-19) for providers of grassroots sport and gym or leisure facilities.</p>		
	Failure to support NHS Test and Trace	Pupils Staff Wider community	Serious	<p>We are no longer required to collect participants' contact details, or keep records of our staff and visitors. However, we will follow advice to continue to display an NHS QR code for participants wishing to check in using the app, to support NHS Test and Trace.</p> <p>We will continue to have a system to collect (and securely store) names and contact details for those who ask to check in but do not have the app.</p> <p>We will not turn participants away if they refuse to check in.</p>	Low	Low
Educational visits	Exposure to infection from inadequate control measures etc	Pupils and staff	Serious	<p>We will follow local Public Health advice and liaise closely with our transport provider and intended hosts then undertake full and thorough risk assessments in relation to all educational visits to ensure they can be undertaken safely. As part of this risk assessment, we will consider what control measures need to be used to reduce the risk of exposure to coronavirus and follow wider advice on visiting indoor and outdoor venues.</p> <p>OEAP National Guidance will be followed (see Contents (oeapng.info))</p> <p>We note that from September 2021 any international visits that have previously been deferred or postponed</p>	Low	Low

				may take place subject to wider international travel restrictions.		
School Reception areas	Exposure to infection from inadequate control measures: visitors to school.	Pupils and staff	Serious	<p>Signage has been erected to advise visitors of hygiene protocols.</p> <p>Staff signing in arrangements - sanitiser available to clean hands after use.</p> <p>Hand sanitiser will be provided to all persons entering premises with signage to explain control measures etc.</p> <p>We are no longer required to collect contact details, or keep records of our staff and visitors. However, we will follow advice to continue to display an NHS QR code for participants wishing to check in using the app, to support NHS Test and Trace.</p> <p>We will continue to have a system to collect (and securely store) names and contact details for those who ask to check in but do not have the app.</p> <p>We will not turn visitors away if they refuse to check in.</p>	Low	Low
	Violence and aggression towards school staff causes injury and distress	Pupils and staff	Serious	<p>We will maintain transparency and regular contact with all members of the school community.</p> <p>Regular briefings/updates for all staff so that they are aware of school response to the COVID 19 virus and can communicate consistently to those who ask.</p> <p>Readiness to deploy the range of behaviour remedies if behaviour becomes unacceptable from warning to full banning from site/sect 547 warnings/action.</p>	Low	Low

<p>Large gatherings e.g. Assemblies, parent evenings, staff meeting or School Performances</p>	<p>Exposure to and increased opportunity for transmission of coronavirus within the school community.</p>	<p>All members of school community</p>	<p>Serious</p>	<p>Large gatherings such as assemblies, staff meetings or school performances can now take place. However, we recognise the high infection rate in our area at the current time and as a result are reintroducing 2 metres social distancing at such events. Where 2 metre social distancing and good ventilation cannot be maintained the event will be cancelled or moved online.</p> <p>At this point in time, we will not be admitting any parents, carers or visitors to school performances.</p> <p>Further guidance on events has been issued and will be followed:</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-covid-19/events-and-attractions</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Low</p>
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Action plan:

What is the Hazard you need to Control? (Medium to high from the risk rating above)	What additional precautions do you need to either eliminate or reduce the risk to an acceptable level?	Who is responsible for implementing these controls?	When are these controls to be implemented (Date)?	When were these controls implemented (Date)?
MEDIUM - Item 1 Person contracts COVID 19 as a result of inadequate cleaning	Contractors to follow procedures outlined	Cleaning team, staff and students	September 2021	
MEDIUM - Item 2 Inadequate ventilation contributes towards the spread of coronavirus. Open windows in the winter months mean that the temperature in buildings is uncomfortable.	No additional mitigation if procedures are followed appropriately	Site team, staff	September 2021	
MEDIUM - Item 3 Failure to follow PHE/ NHS Test and Trace procedures increases the likelihood of exposure to coronavirus in the school community.	No additional mitigation if procedures are followed appropriately	Staff	September 2021	
MEDIUM - Item 4 Person contracts coronavirus as a result of direct contact with an infected person (or a symptomatic person) entering the premises.	No additional mitigation if procedures are followed appropriately	Staff	September 2021	

MEDIUM - Item 5 Contact with those developing symptoms of the virus during the working day.	If procedures are followed appropriately then risk will be mitigated. Training for the first aid team on use of PPE and safe removal will need to be repeated.	First aid team, staff	September 2021	
MEDIUM - Item 6 Non participation in Lateral Flow Testing means that asymptomatic cases are undetected within the school community.	Communication with parents and staff regarding the process highlighting the importance	SLT Admin team	September 2021	
MEDIUM - Item 7 Lateral Flow Testing process is not implemented correctly leading to inaccurate results and/or inadequate follow up of positive test results	If procedures are followed appropriately then risk will be mitigated. Risk assessment in place for school testing centre	SLT	September 2021	
MEDIUM - Item 8 Failure to follow PHE/ NHS Track and Trace procedures increases the likelihood of exposure to coronavirus in the school community.	No additional mitigation to be undertaken other than in notes	HR Team	September 2021	
MEDIUM - Item 9 Inadequate response to alerts provided by use of NHS COVID-19 App	No additional mitigation to be undertaken other than in notes	Staff	September 2021	
MEDIUM - Item 10				

School is targeted by those opposed to the vaccination programme. Potential for injury or distress within the school community.	Potential route planned and communicated.	SLT	November 2021
MEDIUM - Item 11 Disruption to pupils' education	On-line learning tasks	Teaching staff	September 2021
MEDIUM - Item 12 Parents/carers of a child with symptoms of coronavirus refuse to keep them at home.	Communication with parents. Student denied permission to attend	Admin/Pastoral team	September 2021
MEDIUM - Item 13 Failure to use face covering in crowded areas increases the likelihood of exposure to coronavirus in the school community.	Letters to parents have indicated how face coverings are to be used. Students are reminded by staff when leaving classrooms into corridors	Staff	September 2021
MEDIUM - Item 14 Potential of contamination if face coverings are removed or disposed of incorrectly	Sanitiser available. Communication with parents, students, staff	Site staff SLT	November 2021
MEDIUM - Item 15 Students/staff do not have face covering. Face covering is damaged or otherwise unsuitable for use	Communication to parents, students, staff. Contingency supply of masks available.	SLT Admin/pastoral staff	November 2021

<p>MEDIUM - Item 16</p> <p>Staff anxiety re: potential exposure to the virus.</p>	<p>Staff will be briefed on how to conduct themselves on site.</p> <p>Individual staff risk assessments will be undertaken</p>	<p>HR Team</p> <p>SLT and line managers</p>	<p>September 2021</p>
<p>MEDIUM - Item 17</p> <p>Concerns from staff in identified work groups</p>	<p>Individual staff with high concerns will have an individual risk assessment.</p> <p>Steps will be taken to discuss and reduce their concerns</p>	<p>HR Team, staff</p>	<p>September 2021</p>
<p>MEDIUM - Item 18</p> <p>Increased likelihood of serious illness resulting from exposure to coronavirus.</p>	<p>CEV students offered on-line tasks if necessary for medical reason.</p> <p>CEV staff risk assessments.</p>	<p>Teaching staff</p> <p>Line managers</p>	<p>September 2021</p>
<p>MEDIUM - Item 19</p> <p>Lettings - school control measure re cleaning etc are compromised leading to increased risk of infection, expense and possible reputational damage</p>	<p>Adequate ventilation in sports hall.</p>	<p>Site staff</p>	<p>November 2021</p>

Table 1: Definitions

Potential Severity of Harm	Meaning of the harm description	Likelihood/Probability of Harm	Meaning of likelihood/probability
Fatal/Major Injury	Death, major injuries or ill health causing long term disability/absence from work.	High (Likely/probable)	Occurs repeatedly/ to be expected.
Serious Injury	Injuries or ill health causing short-term disability/absences from work (over three days absence)	Medium (possible)	Moderate chance/could occur sometimes.
Minor Injury	Injuries or ill health causing no significant long-term effects and no significant absence from work.	Low (unlikely)	Not Likely to occur

Table 2: Risk rating matrix: Potential severity of harm + Likelihood/ probability of Harm = Risk rating

	High (Likely/Probable)	Medium (Possible)	Low (Unlikely)
Fatal/Major Injury	VERY HIGH	HIGH	MEDIUM
Serious Injury	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW
Minor Injury	MEDIUM	LOW	LOW

Table 3: Action required: Key to ranking and what action to take

VERY HIGH Risk	STOP ACTIVITY! Take action to reassess the work/activity and apply reduction hierarchy before proceeding.
HIGH Risk	Action MUST be taken as soon as possible to reduce the risks and before activity is allowed to continue.
MEDIUM Risk	Implement all additional precautions that are not unreasonably costly or troublesome within an agreed timeframe. Reduce risk to a tolerable level.
LOW Risk	Monitor and review your rolling programme.

