

This document is integral to the schools ongoing response to the Covid-19 pandemic. The content of this document is being produced in consultation with information from staff, parents, governors, union representatives, with information from the DfE that follows PHE and the Health and Safety Executive (HSE). The risk assessment is for the 2021-2022 academic year and will be kept under review and may change in line with government guidance



Covid-19 risk assessment 2021-2022 Academic Year

On 21st February, the Prime Minister 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.

Further information on what this means for education and childcare settings and children's social care services is below.

Changes to testing in education and childcare settings and children's social care services

From Monday 21 February, the Government is removing the guidance for staff and students in most education and childcare settings to undertake twice-weekly asymptomatic testing.

Given we now know that the risks of severe illness from COVID-19 in most children and most fully vaccinated adults are very low, and our successful vaccination programme has achieved a high rate of take-up, we can remove this advice, bringing education into line with wider society.

Changes to self-isolation and daily testing of close contacts

From Thursday 24 February, the Government will remove the legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test. Adults and children who test positive will continue to be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 full days, and then continue to follow the guidance until they have received 2 negative test results on consecutive days. In addition, the Government will:

- no longer ask fully vaccinated close contacts and those aged under 18 to test daily for 7 days, and remove the legal requirement for close contacts who are not fully vaccinated to self-isolate.
- End self-isolation support payments, national funding for practical support and the medicine delivery service will no longer be available.
- End routine contact tracing. Contacts will no longer be required to self-isolate or advised to take daily tests. Staff, children and young people should attend their education settings as usual. This includes staff who have been in close contact within their household, unless they are able to work from home.

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- [End the legal obligation for individuals to tell their employers when they are required to self-isolate.](#)

More detail can be found in the [Living with COVID-19 plan](#).

The following actions will contribute to reducing the likelihood of COVID-19 transmission:

- 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

When an individual develops COVID-19 symptoms or has a positive test Pupils, staff and other adults should follow guidance on [People-with-covid-19-and-their-contacts](#)

Further government guidance can be found at: [Actions for schools during the coronavirus outbreak - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#), [Contingency framework: education and childcare settings \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

School: Ruislip Gardens Primary School	School address: Stafford Road, Ruislip Gardens, HA4 6PD	Review Date: (This is a dynamic document and should be reviewed and updated if there are any changes)	
Assessment Date: 24th February 2022 onwards	What/who is being assessed? Biological hazard- Covid-19 within educational settings (This risk assessment signposts to the relevant Government guidance as well as any internal specific controls/measures).		
Name of Assessor: Rachel Nash, Business Manager		Responsible Person for Actions: Nicky Bulpett, Headteacher	

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Task / Activity Area	Hazard	Who might be harmed and how?	What are your existing controls?	Recommended Control Measures	Action by who/when ?	Likelihood of occurrence after recommended controls added (L)	Impact (I)	Overall Risk (L X I) + I
			<i>SLT's to write what is being done now and then refer to Recommended controls:</i>	<i>SLT's to move Recommended Controls into Existing Controls once they have been implemented:</i>		1-Very Unlikely 2-Unlikely 3- Possible 4- Likely 5- Very Likely Likelihood = Probability of occurrence based on specific activity being assessed	1-Negligible 2- Minor 3- Moderate 4- Major 5- Extreme Impact = Estimate of harm based on specific activity being assessed	<10 = Low 10-19 = Medium 20-30 = High

Task / Activity Area	Hazard	Who might be harmed and how?	What are your existing controls?	Recommended Control Measures	Action by who/when ?	Likelihood of occurrence after recommended controls (L)	Impact (I)	Overall Risk (L X I) + I
Entering and leaving the school	Biological hazard- Covid-19	Staff, parents and pupils could become infected with COVID-19. If so, they are likely to	Following government guidance and updates for education setting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents and staff have been made aware that they should. There is no longer a legal requirement for people with coronavirus (COVID-19) infection to self-isolate, however if you have 	Headteacher update letters. SBM emails to staff-ongoing	2	3	(2X3) +3 = 9 (Low)

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		<p>experience mild symptoms such as fever or cough. In severe cases, this could lead to severe illness and hospitalisation , and, in rare cases, even death</p>		<p>any of the main symptoms of COVID-19 or a positive test result, the public health advice is to stay at home and avoid contact with other people, the school is asking staff and families to follow this guidance. The People-with-covid-19-and-their-contacts stay at home when a child or household member develops coronavirus symptoms and access PCR testing. Schools communicate this regularly to parents.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to ensure that pupils, staff and visitors clean their hands regularly. This can be done with soap and water or hand sanitiser in classrooms and bathrooms. Children must wash/sanitise hands before and after lunch when shared equipment may have been accessed. Classrooms have a sink, water, anti-bacterial hand wash and paper towels 	<p>All staff ongoing</p>			
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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Good respiratory hygiene practices (Catch It, Bin It, Kill It) ● Guidance for school offices can be found here 				
Reducing exposure and transmission of Coronavirus (All settings)	Biological hazard- Covid-19	Staff, parents and pupils could become infected with COVID-19. If so, they are likely to experience mild symptoms such as fever or cough. In severe cases, this could lead to severe illness and hospitalisation, and, in rare cases, even death	<p>Government guidance to be followed for primary schools.</p> <p>Government guidance to be followed by early years settings. The early years foundation stage (EYFS) statutory framework still applies.</p>	<p>Ensure good hygiene for everyone</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hand hygiene- Frequent and thorough hand cleaning is already a regular practice now. Continue to ensure that pupils clean their hands regularly. This can be done with soap and water or hand sanitiser. ● 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 schools, including materials to encourage good hand and respiratory hygiene. ● Use of personal protective equipment (PPE)- Refer to the PPE section 	SLT – ongoing Class based staff – ongoing	2	3	(2X3) +3 = 9 (Low)

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				<p>2) Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes, using standard products such as detergents-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools should maintain an appropriate cleaning schedule. This should include regular cleaning of areas and equipment (for example, twice per day), with a particular focus on frequently touched surfaces (both inside and outside including play equipment). <u>Government guidance</u> on cleaning followed All staff have been provided with anti-bacterial wipes for surfaces and equipment and anti-bacterial hand sanitiser for personal use Classrooms, offices, study and staffrooms will have anti-bacterial wipes to use on equipment, handles, taps that they touch. Staff should clean any area they use after themselves 	<p>SLT/ Site staff-ongoing</p>				
					<p>All staff – ongoing</p>				
					<p>All staff – ongoing</p>				

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				<p>including cups, plates, cutlery and put it away after themselves</p> <p>3. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Improve fresh air in poorly ventilated areas, giving particular consideration when holding events where visitors such as parents are on site. ● Make use of the CO2 monitors that are being provided by central government to identify poorly ventilated rooms. ● Opening external windows can improve natural ventilation, and in addition, opening internal doors can also assist with creating a throughput of air. If necessary, external opening doors may also be used (if they are not fire doors and where safe to do so). ● HSE guidance on ventilation available here 	<p>Site staff at the start of the day.</p> <p>All staff - ongoing</p> <p>Site staff - ongoing</p> <p>All staff-ongoing</p>			
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				<p>4. Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19</p> <p>Symptoms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is no longer a legal requirement for people with coronavirus (COVID-19) infection to self-isolate, however if you have any of the main symptoms of COVID-19 or a positive test result, the public health advice is to stay at home and avoid contact with other people, the school is asking staff and families to follow this guidance. The People-with-covid-19-and-their-contacts stay at home when a child or household member develops coronavirus symptoms and access PCR testing. I If anyone in the school develops COVID-19 	<p>Staff/parents/visitors – ongoing</p> <p>SLT/welfare /Site staff/Visitors – ongoing as required</p>			
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				<p>symptoms, however mild, they should be sent home (not via public transport wherever possible) and told to self-isolate and follow the People-with-covid-19-and-their-contacts . Any pupil with symptoms awaiting collection should be left in a room on their own if possible and safe to do so. A window should be opened for fresh air ventilation if possible. Appropriate <u>PPE</u> should also be used if close contact is necessary. Any rooms they use should be cleaned after they have left.</p> <p>Asymptomatic Testing (LFD testing):</p> <p>The guidance for staff and students in most education and childcare settings is that there is longer a requirement to undertake twice-weekly asymptomatic testing.</p>	<p>Staff - ongoing</p> <p>Staff/parents- ongoing</p>			
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				<p>Confirmatory PCR Tests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The People-with-covid-19-and-their-contacts stay at home when a child or household member develops coronavirus symptoms and access PCR testing. Schools communicate this regularly to parents. • "If you have COVID-19 you can infect other people from 2 days before your symptoms start, and for up to 10 days after. You can pass on the infection to others, even if you have mild symptoms or no symptoms at all. If you have COVID-19 you should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. The People-with-covid-19-and-their-contacts states: "If your day 5 LFD test result is positive, you can continue taking LFD tests until you receive 2 consecutive negative test results." 	Staff/parents/visitors - ongoing			
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				<p>Close Contact Tracing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contacts are no longer required to self-isolate or advised to take daily tests, and contact tracing has ended. <p>If you live with, or have stayed overnight in the household of, someone who has COVID-19, you are advised to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● minimise contact with the person who has COVID-19 ● work from home if you are able to do so ● avoid contact with anyone you know who is at higher risk of becoming severely unwell if they are infected with COVID-19, especially those with a severely weakened immune system ● limit close contact with other people outside your household, especially in crowded, enclosed or poorly ventilated spaces 				
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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wear a well-fitting face covering made with multiple layers or a surgical face mask in crowded, enclosed or poorly ventilated spaces and where you are in close contact with other people • pay close attention to the main symptoms of COVID-19. If you develop any of these symptoms, order a PCR test. You are advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people while you are waiting for your test result <p>Follow this advice for 10 days after the day the person you live or stayed with symptoms started (or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms).</p> <p>Children and young people who usually attend an education or childcare setting and who live with someone who has COVID-</p>				
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				<p>19 should continue to attend the setting as normal.</p> <p>Face coverings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Face coverings are no longer advised for pupils, staff and visitors in classrooms or communal areas. The school's view is that you may choose to wear a mask in communal areas (i.e. corridors, staff room, study) if you wish. Staff and pupils should follow wider advice on face coverings outside of school, including on transport to and from school. <p>CEV Children:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Children and young people previously considered CEV should attend school and should follow the same COVID-19 guidance as the rest of the population. 					
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				<p>CEV Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CEV people are no longer advised to shield but may wish to take extra precautions to protect themselves, and to follow the practical steps set out in the <u>CEV guidance</u> to minimise their risk of exposure to the virus. <p>You should continue to <u>follow the same guidance as the general public</u> on staying safe and preventing the spread of COVID-19.</p> <p>There remains a smaller number of people who, in spite of vaccination, are at higher risk of serious illness from COVID-19. This is due to a weakened immune system (immunosuppressed) or specific other medical conditions and requires enhanced protections such as those offered by antibody and antiviral treatments, additional</p>				
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				<p>vaccinations and potentially other non-clinical interventions. See <u>guidance for people whose immune system means they are at higher risk</u></p> <p>Out-of school settings and wraparound childcare:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning guidance can be found <u>here</u> 				
Educational visits	Biological hazard- Covid-19	Staff, parents and pupils could become infected with COVID-19. If so, they are likely to experience mild symptoms such as fever or cough. In severe cases, this could lead to severe illness and hospitalisation		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools should carry out risk assessments for all trips that should include Covid measures to be followed by the school and the trip provider. Trips planner documents to be shared with the school's EVC. 	SLT/EVC/Teachers	1	3	<p>(1X3) +3 = 6 (Low)</p>

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		, and, in rare cases, even death						
Lunch	Biological hazard-Covid-19	Staff, parents and pupils could become infected with COVID-19. If so, they are likely to experience mild symptoms such as fever or cough. In severe cases, this could lead to severe illness and hospitalisation, and, in rare cases, even death		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School kitchens to comply with the guidance for food businesses on Coronavirus 	SLT/Kitchen staff	2	3	(2X3) +3 = 9 (Low)

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Transport Arrangements	Biological hazard- Covid-19	Staff, parents and pupils could become infected with COVID-19. If so, they are likely to experience mild symptoms such as fever or cough. In severe cases, this could lead to severe illness and hospitalisation, and, in rare cases, even death		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Schools, parents and students should follow the Coronavirus (COVID-19): safer travel guidance for passengers ● All people travelling to England must adhere to travel legislation, details of which are set out in government travel advice ● Dedicated transport providers to consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Use of hand sanitiser upon boarding. and/or disembarking ○ additional cleaning of vehicles ○ ventilation of fresh air (from outside the vehicle) is maximised, particularly through opening windows and ceiling vents ● Public transport: ● Schools, parents and students should follow the Coronavirus (COVID-19): 		2	3	(2X3) +3 = 9 (Low)
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				safer travel guidance for passengers				
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Dealing with suspected and confirmed cases of Covid-19	Biological hazard-Covid-19	Staff, parents and pupils could become infected with COVID-19. If so, they are likely to experience mild symptoms such as fever or cough. In severe cases, this could lead to severe illness and hospitalisation, and, in rare cases, even death		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a pupil develops symptoms and is awaiting collection, <u>government guidance</u> should be followed and the pupil moved to a ventilated isolation room. If a pupil develops symptoms and is awaiting collection, the school will follow the <u>People-with-covid-19-and-their-contacts</u>. Any pupil with symptoms awaiting collection should be left in a room on their own if possible and safe to do so. A window should be opened for fresh air ventilation if possible. Appropriate <u>PPE</u> should also be used if close contact is necessary. Any rooms they use should be cleaned after they have le 		2	3	(2X3) +3 = 9 (Low)
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				DfE Thresholds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools and the local authority will manage any cases that meet or exceed DfE thresholds in accordance with the DfE Contingency Framework. 				
Use of PPE/face coverings	Biological hazard-Covid-19	Staff, parents and pupils could become infected with COVID-19. If so, they are likely to experience mild symptoms such as fever or cough. In severe cases, this could lead to severe illness and hospitalisation, and, in rare cases, even death		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In education and childcare settings, face coverings are not advised for pupils, staff and visitors in communal areas, or classrooms and teaching spaces. Government guidance on PPE to be followed. Any PPE should be disposed of in line with Government guidance on cleaning in non-healthcare settings. 		2	3	(2X3) +3 = 9 (Low)

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Administering First aid/ Medication	Biological hazard- Covid-19	Staff, parents and pupils could become infected with COVID-19. If so, they are likely to experience mild symptoms such as fever or cough. In severe cases, this could lead to severe illness and hospitalisation, and, in rare cases, even death	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Schools have a suitable number of staff on duty</i> • <i>Schools have a first aid risk assessment and medication policy in place</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>HSE guidance on first aid</u> followed. This includes first aid cover and qualifications as well as guidance for first aiders • Administering first aid and medication risk assessments to be amended by schools • <u>Government PPE guidance</u> followed. 		2	3	(2X3) +3 = 9 (Low)
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Likelihood:						
Very Likely	5	6	12	18	24	30
Likely	4	5	10	15	20	25
Possible	3	4	8	12	16	20
Unlikely	2	3	6	9	12	15
Very Unlikely	1	2	4	6	8	10
		1	2	3	4	5
Impact:		Negligible	Minor	Moderate	Major	Extreme