Covid-19 Generic risk assessment template for schools and childcare settings- September 2021

The purpose of this template is to help schools decide which actions to take. They should undertake an appropriate COVID-19 risk assessment, just as for other health and safety related hazards. This risk assessment must be done in consultation with staff and union representatives.

Introduction

"Step 4 has marked a new phase in the government's response to the pandemic, moving away from stringent restrictions on everyone's day-to-day lives, towards advising people on how to protect themselves and others, alongside targeted interventions to reduce risk. As Covid-19 becomes a virus that we learn to live with, there is now an imperative to reduce the disruption to children and young people's education - particularly given that the direct clinical risks to children are extremely low, and every adult has been offered a first vaccine and the opportunity for 2 doses by mid-September. Our priority is for you to deliver face-to-face, high-quality education to all pupils. The evidence is clear that being out of education causes significant harm to educational attainment, life chances, mental and physical health" (taken from the Schools Covid-19 operational guidance).

The DfE has moved from contact tracing for single cases to an outbreak management approach for education settings. In line with this, the local authority has updated this risk assessment and other related guidance on EGfL such as the flowchart for schools in dealing with suspected or confirmed cases and the reporting of cases to the local authority. Schools already have business continuity/emergency management plans and it is expected that these or the schools Covid-19 risk assessment will include continency plans to cover how individual schools would operate if any of the measures within the <u>contingency framework</u> are temporarily recommended.

A revised risk assessment template has been prepared for schools (see below) to base their own risk assessments from September. A copy of the pre-September 2021 risk assessment should be retained for reference purposes and for those cases where additional protective measures are temporarily brought back.

Mixing and Bubbles

It is no longer recommended that it is necessary to keep children in consistent groups ('bubbles') although the temporary re-introduction of 'bubbles' should be included in the schools contingency planning.

Social distancing

Social distancing measures have now ended in the workplace, including schools.

Tracing close contacts and isolation

School are no longer required to undertake contact tracing. Contacts from a school setting will only be traced by NHS Test and Trace where the positive case specifically identifies the individual as being a close contact. Schools may be contacted in exceptional cases to help with identifying close contacts, as currently happens in managing other infectious diseases. This is likely to be the case for young children and those attending special schools. If identified as a close contact by NHS Test and Trace, the following people are exempt from self-isolation but must follow government guidance including getting a PCR test:

- Those that are fully vaccinated
- Those that are below the age of 18 years 6 months
- Those that have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- Those that are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Face Coverings

Face coverings are no longer advised for pupils, staff and visitors either in classrooms or in communal areas. The government has removed the requirement to wear face coverings in law but expects and recommends that they are worn in enclosed and crowded spaces where one may come into contact with people they don't normally meet. This includes public transport and dedicated transport to school or college. The temporary re-introduction of face coverings should be included in the schools contingency planning.

Carbon Dioxide (CO2) Monitors

CO2 monitors will be provided to all state-funded schools from September as part of an initiative led by central government. The monitors will enable staff to act quickly where ventilation is poor and provide reassurance that existing ventilation measures are working. The majority of these monitors shall be provided to schools in the autumn term and prioritised for special schools and alternative provisions. Further details will be available following the completion of the procurement of the CO2 monitors.

Covid-19 Vaccines

Schools should continue to encourage all those eligible for Covid vaccines to engage with the NHS vaccine programme.

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

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) and on coronavirus information Ealing Grid for Learning

This Risk Assessment should be completed in conjunction with the guidance above and with the guidance available on EGfL

Further advice can be sought by contacting either Raj Chowdhury (Children's Services) or Steve Dunham (Children's Services)

Document Changes	Date
Original document published	22 nd May 2020
References made to EHCP children with 1-2-1 support. Hierarchy of controls added for all settings. Note added about virtual assemblies. Note added about seeking advice if required around propping of doors. Note added about cleaning of lunch areas. Note added on external providers of OT/physiotherapy and hydrotherapy sessions.	26 th May 2020
First page text amended to reflect the updated guidance on those clinically vulnerable and those clinically extremely vulnerable (shielding).	4 th June 2020
Text added about the 'Test and Trace' system and what schools should do in the event of a suspected or confirmed case.	19 th June 2020
Text added to clarify that staff members do not need to self-isolate as a precaution if they need to change 'bubbles'.	22 nd June 2020
Front page updated to reflect changes to government guidance for schools bringing back all children. Risk assessment rewrite based on amended government guidance	3rd July 2020
As a result of trade union consultation, a reminder added for schools to adequately record details of pupils, staff and visitors on site.	8 th July 2020
In line with updated guidance, the need for strict social distancing on dedicated transport removed and schools to provide immunisation programmes as normal added.	31 st July 2020

Updated to reflect the fact that the local authority now only needs to be informed about any positive cases (not suspected cases). In line with updated government guidance, the potential use of face coverings in secondary schools added.	26 th August 2020
In line with updated government guidance, face coverings now advised for over 11's on dedicated transport and a note added to ensure that ventilation is maximised on dedicated transport vehicles. Schools signposted to government guidance on; music, dance, drama, indoor/outdoor performances and team sports.	1 st September 2020
Link added to the HSE website on first aid. Link to the St John's Ambulance website removed.	10 th September 2020
DfE contact details added for any confirmed cases	17th September 2020
Changes made to reflect further controls due to the new virus variants and January 2021 national lockdown. Additional controls include; High schools may wish to use face coverings in classrooms, keeping occupied spaces well ventilated, highlighting the need to keep visitors to an absolute minimum, reminding schools to keep 'bubble sizes' as small as possible and the rollout of asymptomatic testing in certain school settings.	8 th January 2021
Updates made in line with Government guidance published on the 22 nd February 2021 for the full opening of schools in March. Changes made include the areas of face coverings and asymptomatic testing. Overall size of document also reduced.	24 th February 2021
Updates made in line with Government guidance published on 26 th March 2021. Changes made in the areas of; test and trace, CEV pupils, educational visits, wraparound care and extra-curricular activities and physical activities.	29 th March 2021

Updates made in line with Government guidance published on the 10th	12th May 2021
May 2021. Foreword note added on face coverings. Additions made in	
the areas of educational visits, wraparound and extra-curricular	
provisions, performances and outdoor activities.	
Updates made in line with Government guidance published on the 6 th	15 th July 2021
July 2021 on Step 4 of the roadmap and local/London wide public	
health advice.	
Aligned to the new phase in the government's response to the	24 th August 2021
pandemic alongside advice from the local authority Public Health	
Team.	

School:		a ATEM Sa	School addre	ss:	Review Date:				
Wood	l lands ademy	YYY			(This is a dynamic document and shareviewed and up there are any char	nould be	ww	Ealing.gov	
Assessment Da	te:1 st Septembe	er 2021		peing assessed?					
			Biological haza	rd- Covid-19 within e	educational settin	gs			
				ric risk assessment fo ools will need to inclu	_				
Name of Assess	or: C Hasker				Responsible Pe for Actions:	erson	All staff	:	
Task / Activity Area	Hazard	Who might be harmed and how?	What are your existing controls? SLT's to write what is being done now and then refer to Recommended controls:	Recommended Control Measures SLT's to move Recommended Controls into Existing Controls once they have bee implemented:	Action by who/when?	2-Unlike 3- Possi 4- Likely 5- Very Likeliho Probab occurre based o	nce nended s added Unlikely ely ble / Likely od = ility of nce n activity	Impact (I) 1-Negligible 2- Minor 3- Moderate 4- Major 5- Extreme Impact = Estimate of harm based on specific activity being assessed	Overall Risk (L X I) + I <10 = Low 10-19 = Medium 20-30 = High

Task /	Hazard	Who might be	What are your	Recommended Control Measures	Acti	Likelihood of	Impact	Overall Risk
Activit		harmed and	existing		on	occurrence	(I)	(L X I) + I
y Area		how?	controls?		by	after		
					wh	recommended		
					o/w	controls (L)		
					hen			
					?			

Task / Activit y Area	Hazard	Who might be harmed and how?	What are your existing controls?	Recommended Control Measures	Acti on by wh o/w hen ?	Likelihood of occurrence after recommended controls (L)	Impact (I)	Overall Risk (L X I) + I
Enterin g the school	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	Parents to drop off their children at the school gate and allow them to enter the school independently. Parents of EYFS pupils to drop off their children outside the classroom doors. Soft start for Reception- Year 6 to limit congestion at the gates and to prevent any loss of learning time	 Parents are aware to stay at home when a child or household member develops coronavirus symptoms and access PCR testing. Schools communicate this regularly to parents. On entry to school, staff and pupils to wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and hands dried or use alcohol hand rub or sanitiser ensuring that all parts of the hands are covered. Skin friendly cleaning wipes can be used as an alternative. Guidance for school offices can be found here 			3	(2X3) +3 = 9 (Low)

Task / Haz Activit y Area	hai	rmed and	What are your existing controls?	Recommended Control Measures	Acti on by wh o/w hen ?	Likelihood of occurrence after recommended controls (L)	Impact (I)	Overall Risk (L X I) + I
			. Gates will open at 8:30am and close at 8:45am. Only EYFS parents will be permitted to enter the school beyond the gates. EYFS parents may support their children to settle in class and will be encouraged to wear masks. Masks for visitors will be encouraged					

Reducing	Biological	Staff, parents	Individual risk	Government guidance to be	2	3	(2X3) +3
exposure and	hazard-	and pupils	assessments for	followed for high schools and			=
transmission	Covid-19	could become	CEV and CV	primary schools.			9
of Coronavirus (All settings)	COVID-19	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	members of staff. Staff to be encouraged to wear masks in communal areas or when communicating directly with other staff/parents. Staff have access to masks and gloves as needed. Wipes available in shared areas (e.g. music room/computer room) and equipment should be wiped down after use.	Government guidance to be followed by early years settings. The early years foundation stage (EYFS) statutory framework still applies. Specific guidance for Special schools and other specialist settings to be followed. As normal, schools should provide immunisation programmes on site, ensuring these will be delivered in keeping with the school's control measures. • Ensure good hygiene for everyone • Hand hygiene- Frequent and thorough hand cleaning is already a regular practice now. Schools to continue to ensure that pupils clean their hands regularly. This			9 (Low)

Tes ava whi ava to b enc	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 couraged to t themselves 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,	
twice a program and any test imm	including materials to encourage good hand and recaution d to report recautive equipment (PPE)- Refer to the PPE section	
to b with Dai	2) Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes, using standard products such as detergents- or and hand Cleaning regimes, using standard products such as detergents- or Schools should maintain an	
san the Chil staf	 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 	
han	frequently touched surfaces (both inside and outside including play equipment). Government guidance on	

held in hall, with children sitting in year group order. Should anyone test positive, assemblies will continue virtually until isolation periods	cleaning followed 3. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated • Improve fresh air in poorly ventilated areas, giving particular consideration when holding events where visitors such as parents are on site.	
have been observed. While the school is not responsible for tracking Covid cases within our families, they will be encouraged to inform the school if anyone within a child's extended family/circle tests positive for Covid.	 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). Ventilation strategy available on EGfL HSE guidance on ventilation available here 	

CIBSE advice available here
CIBSE advice available <u>here</u>
4. Follow public health advice
on testing, self-isolation and
managing confirmed cases of
COVID-19
Symptoms:
Pupils, staff and visitors
should not come into school
if they have symptoms,
have had a positive test
result or other reasons
requiring them to stay at
home due to the risk of
them passing on COVID-19
(for example, they are
required to quarantine).
If anyone in the school develops COVID-19
symptoms, however mild, they should be sent home
(not via public transport
wherever possible) and told
to self-isolate and follow
the stay at home guidance
including taking a test. Any
household members should
also follow this guidance.
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.		
		Asymptomatic Testing:		
		All secondary school pupils		
		should receive 2 on-site		
		lateral flow device tests, 3		
		to 5 days apart, on their		
		return in the autumn term.		
		Settings may commence		
		testing from 3 working days		
		before the start of term and		
		can stagger return of pupils		
		across the first week to		
		manage this. Pupils should		
		then continue to test twice		
		weekly at home until the		
		end of September, when		
		this will be reviewed.		
		Staff should undertake		
		twice weekly home tests		

	whenever they are on site		
	until the end of September,		
	when this will also be		
	reviewed.		
	 Secondary schools should 		
	retain a small asymptomatic		
	testing site (ATS) on-site		
	until further notice so they		
	can offer testing to pupils		
	who are unable to test		
	themselves at home.		
	There is no need for		
	primary age pupils (those in		
	year 6 and below) to test		
	over the summer period.		
	They will be offered the 2		
	tests at an ATS at the		
	beginning of the autumn		
	term when they start at		
	their secondary school as a		
	new year 7. Schools may		
	choose, however, to start		
	testing year 6 pupils earlier,		
	including in summer		
	schools, depending on their		
	local circumstances.		
	Confirmatory PCR Tests:		
	,		
	Staff and pupils with a		
	positive LFD test result		

The content of this document was produced in consultation with partnering bodies and is now final. It will be kept under review and may change, refer to the change control table on page 3. Version 24th August 2021 should self-isolate in line with the stay at home guidance. They will also need to get a free PCR test to check if they have Covid-19. Whilst awaiting the PCR result, the individual should continue to self-isolate. 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 pupil can return to school, as long as the individual doesn't have COVID-19 symptoms. Additional information on PCR test kits for schools and further education providers is available. **Close Contact Tracing:** Close contacts will be identified via NHS Test and

Trace and education settings are no longer

expected undertake contact tracing. NHS Test and Trace will work with the positive case to identify close

The content of this document was produced in control table on page 3. Version 24 th August 20.	sultation with partnering bodies and is now final. It will be kept under review and may change, refer to the change
	contacts. Contacts from a school setting will only be traced by NHS Test and Trace where the positive case specifically identifies the individual as being a close contact. This is likely to be a small number of individuals who would be most at risk of contracting COVID-19 due to the nature of the close contact. Schools may be contacted in exceptional cases to help
	with identifying close contacts, as currently happens in managing other infectious diseases.
	If identified as a close contact by NHS Test and Trace, the following people are exempt from self- isolation but must follow government guidance including getting a PCR test:
	 Those that are fully vaccinated Those that are below the age of 18

years 6 months	
 Those that have 	
taken part in or are	
o Those that are not	
medical reasons	
Vaccine uptake:	
 Schools should continue to 	
encourage all those eligible	
for Covid vaccines to	
engage with the NHS	
vaccine programme.	
Face coverings:	
Refer to PPF section	
CEV Children:	
All CEV children and young	
small number of children	
	taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial Those that are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons Vaccine uptake: Schools should continue to encourage all those eligible for Covid vaccines to engage with the NHS vaccine programme. Face coverings: Refer to PPE section CEV Children: All CEV children and young people should attend their education setting unless they are one of the very

paediatric or other specialist care who have	
been advised by their GP or	
clinician not to attend.	
Further information is	
available in the <u>guidance</u> on	
supporting pupils at school with medical conditions and	
on <u>EGfL</u>	
011 <u>E 012</u>	
CEV Staff:	
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.	
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Out-of school settings and	
wraparound childcare:	
Planning guidance can be	
found <u>here</u>	

Educational	Biological	Staff, parents	Detailed risk	•	Schools should not go on	1	3	(1X3) +3
visits	hazard-	and pupils	assessment to		any international visits until			=
	Covid-19	could become	be undertaken,		the autumn term. All visits			6
		infected with	with specific		should follow the Ealing			6
		COVID-19. If	reference to any		There and Back Again			(Low)
			CEV or CV staff		Policy.			
		so, they are	or pupils					
		likely to	attending.					
		experience	_					
		mild	Covid measures					
		symptoms	at destination to					
		such as fever	be included in					
		or cough. In	Risk					
		severe cases,	Assessment.					
		this could lead						
		to severe	Swimming will					
		illness and	resume from					
		hospitalisation,	September					
		and, in rare	2021, with Year					
		cases, even	6 attending					
		death	Northolt Pool on					
		death	Wednesday					
			Mornings. 3					
			members of					
			staff will attend					
			with the class					
			and a detailed					
			risk assessment					
			with alternative					
			transport routes					
			in case of					

			cancellations, will be prepared in advance.				
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	Classes to remain within designated playgrounds at play and lunch time. These are no longer limited to one class at a time, but numbers are still limited. Pupils from different classes may now interact with each other. Staggered lunch times to ensure time to clean and to limit capacity in hall.	School kitchens to comply with the guidance for food businesses on Coronavirus	2	3	(2X3) +3 = 9 (Low)

Transport	Biological	Staff, parents	A maximum of 2 classes (+ EY) will be in the hall at the same time. TAs to supervise their own classes throughout lunchtime, with radios used to communicate between groups.	• Schools, parents and 2 3	(2X3) +3
Arrangements	hazard- Covid-19	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	encouraged to walk to school. Space is available to store scooters and bikes onsite. Children can leave these at one of the two bike sheds accessible from the KS1 playground 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: Face coverings to be worn by children	= 9 (Low)

and young people

aged 11 and above.

pedestrian gate.

Staff and

illness and

hospitalisation,

		and, in rare cases, even death	staff and parents travelling on public transport will be encouraged to continue wearing masks.	 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: Face coverings to be used by children over the age of 11. 	
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	Robust attendance procedures ensure children's symptoms are recorded when absent and parents are supported to book a test if	 Refer to the flowchart on dealing with suspected and confirmed cases on EGfL If a pupil develops symptoms and is awaiting collection, government guidance should be followed and the pupil moved to a ventilated isolation room. 	(2X3) +3 = 9 (Low)

		such as fever or cough. In severe cases, this could lead to severe illness and hospitalisation, and, in rare cases, even death	symptoms of covid are shown. Isolation room is available in close proximity to the school office.	Dfi •	E Thresholds 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	Staff will be encouraged to wear masks in particularly busy areas or when meeting with visitors. Visitors to the school will be encouraged to wear masks.	•	Face coverings are no longer advised for pupils, staff and visitors either in classrooms or in communal areas. They are, however, recommended for use in enclosed and crowded spaces where one may come into contact with people they don't normally meet. 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)

		cases, even death					
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	• Schools have a suitable number of staff on duty • Schools have a first aid risk assessment and medication policy in place First aid boxes are available in every classroom, with individual inhalers and first aid equipment easily accessible	HSE guidance on first aid 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 Government PPE guidance followed.	2	3	(2X3) +3 = 9 (Low)

Leaving the school	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	Parents collect pupils from designated areas of the school playground. Pupils are dismissed from inside the building and are not released until parents are visible to the member of staff dismissing. Staggered finish times ensure all pupils can be dismissed safely, while allowing parents the space to socially distance where possible.	Staff and pupils to wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and hands dried or use alcohol hand rub or sanitiser ensuring that all parts of the hands are covered. Skin friendly cleaning wipes can be used as an alternative.		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