

RISK ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT FOR SCHOOL OPENING

RISK ASSESSMENT

ACTIVITY: Whole School Opening – COVID-19

LOCATION: Littlehaven Infant School & Northolmes Junior School

DATE NOV 2021

Name ...Sharon Anderson Organisation Northolmes Junior School

Assessment undertaken (date) November 2021

SignedS Anderson.... **Date** November 2021... **Assessment review date:** ...

LIST HAZARDS HERE	List of groups of people who are especially at risk from the significant hazards you have identified:	How will you control this risk? (You can append or refer to relevant documentation that explains your safety arrangements, e.g. letter to parents, booklet prepared for students, letter from residential centre, extract in safety manual etc.)	Post event review (use this column to comment if you have a concern or an incident occurred)
Although the 17 May brings further easing of restrictions within the wider community, advice to school remains to minimise contacts as far as possible to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 within a school population where some adults and all children remain unvaccinated			
Individual risk factors meaning staff / pupils more vulnerable to COVID-19	Staff, Students / pupils / wider contacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Those pupils and staff unable to attend school because they are following clinical and/or Public Health advice (e.g. a letter from their consultant) will be provided with remote education or the opportunity to work from home. School will use Tapestry and Google Classroom. School to discuss arrangements / concerns with individuals and provide assurance of controls in place. Individual risk assessments will be conducted where required to determine if additional measures are required. 	
Spread of COVID-19 between children and adults in school - within the wider school environment	Staff and students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catch it. Kill it. Bin it message and routines for 20 second handwashing will be reinforced daily with children with staff setting the example Rooms will be adequately ventilated (but a workable room temperature will be maintained). CO2 monitors will be used once supplied by DfE. Cleaning regimes will be maintained. Reminders about hygiene will be displayed around the buildings. All first aid to be done within the class and not sent to the school office. Social distancing between adults will continue to be encouraged. 	
Spread of COVID-19 between staff	Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All staff will be encouraged to take lateral flow tests at home twice a week (if a member of staff has tested positive for COVID they should not take a test for 90 days after the result). 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff to be encouraged to maintain social distancing rule between all adults. • Cleaning products available in staffrooms so that spaces can be cleaned before and after use. • Staff to place used cups / plates /cutlery in dishwashers as soon as they have been used. No items to be washed up and left on the draining board. • Staff will minimise the time in the school office as this area is small • Staff are encouraged to wear masks in communal areas and around the site as per changes to DFE guidance 29th November 2021 	
Spread of COVID-19 from visitors on site	Staff, visitors and children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form to be completed by all visitors entering site confirming that they have taken all reasonable precautions. • Contact details of all visitors will be taken to facilitate track and trace if needed • All visitors to wash their hands on entering the site • If possible, social distancing to be maintained in face to face meetings • Good ventilation to be maintained in all areas used to host meetings or events. • Surfaces to be cleaned after such meetings • If there have been no COVID cases in school and the community COVID rates are low then in-school parent sessions may be held. 	
Spread of COVID-19 from Governors on site	Governors, staff and children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governor meetings/visits during the school day will be kept to a minimum and may remain virtual • Form to be completed by all Governors entering site confirming that they have taken all reasonable precautions. • Governors to wash their hands on entering the site • Surfaces to be cleaned after such meetings 	
Spread of COVID-19 from parents on site	<i>Staff and students / parents and other adults</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents will be encouraged to maintain social distancing when waiting on the playground. • Rooms used for parent meetings will be adequately ventilated 	
Person onsite with suspected case of COVID-19		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a person falls ill during the school day then they will immediately be isolated in the designated isolation room (Einstein room at Northolmes, back of library at Littlehaven). • Only staff in the same class will have contact with the unwell person. • Isolation rooms will not be used for other purposes • Person must leave site as soon as is reasonably possible • The isolation room and any bathrooms used cleaned before they are used again. • Person must be tested for COVID-19 and remain isolated at home until results are received. • Any family members or close contacts (identified by PHE) will be asked to 	

		<p>take a PCR test</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The whole school community will be alerted to the presence of a case in school and asked to be vigilant for signs of COVID-19 	
Future Closures or class self-isolation		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 1-6 having been using Google Classrooms and this will be utilised for any school closures or if individual children are isolating. • Reception will continue to set learning via Tapestry • Children who have needed to borrow laptops during lockdown will be able to access laptops again if they need to work from home. 	
Mental health and wellbeing affected through isolation or anxiety about coronavirus	Staff and Pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have regular keep in touch meetings/calls with people working at home to talk about any work issues • Talk openly with staff about the possibility that they may be affected and tell them what to do to raise concerns or who to go to so they can talk things through • Involve staff in completing risk assessments so they can help identify potential problems and identify solutions • Share information and advice with staff about mental health and wellbeing • Consider an occupational health referral if personal stress and anxiety issues are identified • Keep staff updated on what is happening so they feel involved and reassured • Discuss the issue of fatigue with employees and make sure they take regular breaks, are encouraged to take leave, set working hours to ensure they aren't working long hours • Ensure that pupils take part in weekly PSHE lessons to talk through feelings and how to speak to someone if needed • Staff to identify children who are struggling and through discussion with Inclusion Lead, make nurture groups sessions available to them • Change for Life sessions to start again in Autumn term to teach key pupils the strategies for resilience and self-confidence • Talk to children about trusted adults in school and who they can speak to if needed • Staff worried about their mental or physical health will be signposted to services that can help. 	

All of the above procedures will be amended in line with any new scientific guidance

This risk assessment is written in the knowledge that social distancing between children within school is impossible to implement and enforce.

Review of Current Risk Assessment

25 November 21

Reason for review: Cases at Northolmes Junior School have risen over the last 7 days and they have now passed the DfE escalation guidance of 5 cases amongst close contacts within the last 5 days (DfE informed but no additional recommendations have been made by them).

We have reviewed our current risk assessment for Northolmes Junior School. The school has continued to work as two separate bubbles – Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 and this will continue.

Additional measures taken (at Northolmes Junior only) will be:

- Whole school assemblies to move back online
- Any clubs where there were a mix of upper and lower school children will be cancelled (or only run for one bubble)
- Parent meetings will be held remotely
- All visitors will be asked to wear a mask while in the school building
- Governor meetings will be held online
- Reminders will be given about hand hygiene
- Parent letter sent to advise them of the increase in cases and to remind them that a child displaying any symptoms (however mild) must have a PCR test
- Staff meetings will be held remotely
- Staff reminded about social distancing