

Sissinghurst Primary School Covid Risk Assessment 2021-22 including Outbreak Management Plan.

The most important symptoms of COVID-19 are recent onset of any of the following:

- *a new continuous cough*
- *a high temperature*
- *a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)*
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For most people, COVID-19 will be a mild illness. However, if you have any of the symptoms above, even if your symptoms are mild, stay at home and arrange to have a test.

There are several other symptoms linked with COVID-19. These other symptoms may have another cause and are not on their own a reason to have a COVID-19 test. If you are concerned about your symptoms, seek medical advice.

As the country moves to Step 4 of the roadmap, the government continues to manage the risk of serious illness from the spread of the virus. This marks 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.

The government's priority and ours, is 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.

This risk assessment explains the actions we are taking to reduce the risk of transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19) at Sissinghurst school. This risk assessment is based on the most recent public health advice, endorsed by Public Health England (PHE).

[Schools COVID-19 operational guidance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/schools-covid-19-operational-guidance)

At Sissinghurst Primary we comply with health and safety law and put in place proportionate control measures. We regularly review and update our risk assessments - treating them as 'living documents', as the circumstances in our school and the public health advice changes or on a termly basis whichever comes first.

Outbreak Management Plan

Within the Risk assessment the areas in bold are our outbreak management plan. This outlines how we would operate if there were an outbreak in our school or local area. Given the detrimental impact that restrictions on education can have on children and young people, any measures in our school should only ever be considered as a last resort, kept to the minimum number of groups possible, and for the shortest amount of time possible.

If we have several confirmed cases within 14 days, we may have an outbreak.

In the case of a suspected outbreak we will:

Call the dedicated advice service who will escalate the issue to our local health protection team where necessary and advise if any additional action is required, such as implementing elements of our outbreak management plan (bold in RA). They can be reached by calling the **DfE helpline on 0800 046 8687 and selecting option 1** for advice on the action to take in response to a positive case.

The [contingency framework](#) describes the principles of managing local outbreaks of COVID-19 in education and childcare settings. Local authorities, directors of public health (DsPH) and PHE health protection teams (HPTs) can recommend measures described in the contingency framework in individual education and childcare settings – or a small cluster of settings – as part of their outbreak management responsibilities.

In addition, in line with the national guidance, KCC advise leadership teams to review contingency plans/outbreak management plans in the near future so that there is clarity across the school community about what action will be taken in the event of significant increase in infection rates. DfE guidance on contingency plans can be viewed here <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-local-restrictions-in-education-and-childcare-settings/contingency-framework-education-and-childcare-settings>

The thresholds for considering additional action are

- 5 children, pupils, students or staff, who are likely to have mixed closely, test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period
- 10% of children, pupils, students or staff who are likely to have mixed closely test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period

If either of these thresholds are met the school may need to consider the following actions:

- Testing
- Face coverings
- Shielding
- Limiting visits from and to the school or setting

- Attendance restrictions (as a last resort and a short-term measure, with priority being given to vulnerable children and children of key workers to attend school and high-quality remote learning being put in place).

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing to control the risks?	What further action do you need to take to control the risks?	Who needs to carry out the action?	When is the action needed by?	Done
<p><u>Contracting CV19 within the school community</u></p>	<p>Staff Children and visitors including those who are double vaccinated may be at risk of transmission from CV19 and subsequent possible illness.</p>	<p>From Monday 13th December class will be kept in bubbles for break, lunch and during lessons.</p> <p>Staff will not mix in staffrooms</p> <p>Staff will wear face coverings in communal spaces and are permitted to wear face covering in class.</p> <p>Parents have been asked to take children for PCR tests if they display any symptoms and have been reminded that a LFD is used for weekly asymptomatic testing only.</p> <p>All CW has moved remotely.</p> <p>There will be no visitors allowed into the school building.</p>	<p>Ensure that any children with symptoms are sent home for a PCR test.</p> <p>Ensure all children have GC log ins and can access this platform.</p> <p>Check list of children who have not got access to online learning.</p> <p>Meet online with staff to reassure tem of the actions we are taking to keep everyone safe.</p> <p>Monitor the situation on a daily basis to ensure that the school can safely operate with the number of adults present.</p>	<p>staff</p>	<p>From Monday 13th Dec.</p>	

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		School office is now closed to parents and visitors.				
<p><u>Contracting CV19 within the school community</u></p> <p>If children staff or visitors enter our school building carrying CV19 there will be an increased risk of transmission to others due to the nature of the virus.</p>	<p>Staff Children and visitors including those who are double vaccinated may be at risk of transmission from CV19 and subsequent possible illness.</p>	<p>System of controls:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure good hygiene for everyone. • Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes. • Keep occupied spaces well ventilated. • Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19 <p><u>Frequent Testing</u></p> <p>Staff and visitors will be asked to continue testing using the LFD tests twice a week and report results.</p> <p>Families will be asked to engage in regular weekly testing and report the results.</p>	<p>Continue: <u>Hygiene</u></p> <p>Frequent and thorough hand cleaning should now be regular practice. You should continue to ensure that pupils clean their hands regularly. This can be done with soap and water or hand sanitiser, always before eating.</p> <p>Hand sanitiser will continue to be used as children enter school and after break and lunchtimes.</p> <p>The 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach continues to be very important.</p> <p>The e-Bug COVID-19 website contains free</p>	<p>Class teachers</p>	<p>Ongoing reminders about hygiene Termly teaching using e-bug resources.</p>	

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			<p>resources which teachers will use as part of termly teaching, including materials to encourage good hand and respiratory hygiene.</p> <p><u>Cleaning</u></p> <p>An enhanced cleaning schedule will continue to operate. This will include regular cleaning of areas and equipment with a particular focus on frequently touched surfaces.</p> <p><u>Ventilation</u></p> <p>Internal doors and windows should continue to be kept open to keep air flow. External doors can be opened at break times. Teachers should balance the need for increased ventilation while maintaining a comfortable temperature for their class without the need for additional coats or warm clothes.</p>	<p>Cleaner line managed by School business manager</p> <p>Class teachers and site manager.</p>		

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			<p><u>Confirmed cases of COVID-19</u></p> <p>Pupils, staff and other adults 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).</p> <p>If anyone in our school develops COVID-19 symptoms, however mild, we will send them home and they should follow public health advice.</p> <p>Those with symptoms even mild should isolate and take a PCR test as should others in their household. If a positive test is reported then the isolation period includes the day the symptoms started (or the day your test was taken if you do not have symptoms), and the next 10 full days.</p>			

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			<p>There may be the need to reduce the number of adults attending events in the lead up to Christmas or in the case of an outbreak to change plans for Christmas events including recording events or cancelling events</p>			
<p><u>Poorly Ventilated Spaces</u></p> <p>Adequate ventilation reduces how much virus is in the air. It helps reduce the risk from aerosol transmission.</p> <p>Aerosol transmission can happen when someone breathes in small particles in the air (aerosols) after a person with the</p>	<p>Staff Children and visitors to school are at risk from breathing in small particles of the virus (aerosol transmission) in enclosed areas and are therefore at more risk from contracting Covid 19 if present in the air.</p>	<p>Adequate ventilation reduces how much virus is in the air. It helps reduce the risk from aerosol transmission. Ventilation through open doors and windows is likely to be adequate to minimise the risk of COVID-19 aerosol transmission if the rooms are used within the occupancy limits specified in the building design, and have a sufficient fresh air supply.</p> <p>From Monday 13th Dec: Set school on Summer mode and all windows and doors should be fully open.</p> <p>Where possible PE lessons should be carried out outside or in the hall with</p>	<p>Although ventilation reduces the risk from aerosols, it has minimal impact on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • droplet transmission (from people being in close contact) • contact transmission (touching surfaces) <p>To mitigate these risks, see section on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Good respiratory hygiene 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Caretaker to ensure mechanical windows are set to open ode. 2. Teachers to ensure external doors are opened at break times to change the air in the room. 	<p>Ongoing from September 2021</p>	<p>09/21</p>

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<p>virus has been in the same enclosed area.</p> <p>The risk from aerosols is greater in areas that are <u>poorly ventilated</u>.</p> <p>Risks increase where exercise is carried out inside.</p>		<p>all the windows and roof windows set to open.</p> <p>Only 1 person should be in a space without windows which can be opened including the art, resources and stationary cupboards.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ increased cleaning ❖ Preventing access to those displaying CV19 symptoms. <p>CO2 monitors are being used throughout the school to monitor levels and ensure there is an acceptable level of ventilation in the building.</p>	<p>3. PE teacher to ensure good ventilation at times when hall is being used for exercise.</p>		
<p><u>Local outbreak of CV19</u></p> <p>A large outbreak of CV19 cases within the local community or school</p>	<p>In the case of local large scale outbreaks staff and children are likely to be more at risk from mixing in large groups as this increases the risk or aerosol,</p>	<p>From Monday 13th Dec:</p> <p>As a result of illness in school amongst staff and pupils the school has returned to class bubbles for breaks and lunches</p> <p>Guidance no longer recommends that it is necessary to keep children in</p>	<p>In case of an outbreak bubbles would be reinstated</p> <p>Settings will continue to have a role in working with health protection teams in the case of a local outbreak. If there is an outbreak in a setting or if central government offers the area an enhanced response</p>	<p>The decision to revert to bubbles will be taken by the Headteacher and the governing body will be informed.</p>	<p>Only in the case of a local outbreak.</p>	

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	droplet from close contact and contact transmission of CV19.	<p>consistent groups ('bubbles'). This means that assemblies can resume, and you no longer need to make alternative arrangements to avoid mixing at lunch. However, in some local areas it may become necessary to reintroduce 'bubbles' for a temporary period, to reduce mixing between groups.</p> <p>Any decision to recommend the reintroduction of 'bubbles' would not be taken lightly and would need to take account of the detrimental impact they can have on the delivery of education.</p>	package, a director of public health might advise a setting to temporarily reintroduce some control measures.			
<p><u>Close contacts and Isolation Periods</u> Where staff and children are identified by track and trace as close contacts time will be missed from school which will</p>		<p>From 16 August 2021, children under the age of 18 years old will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case.</p>	<p>Close contacts will now be identified via NHS Test and Trace and education settings will no longer be expected to undertake contact tracing.</p> <p>As with positive cases in any other setting, NHS Test and Trace will work with the</p>	<p>Track and Trace will contact close contacts.</p> <p>School office and Headteacher will advise that a PCR test be taken but that children can attend school even</p>	<p>On going from 16th August 2021</p>	

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<p>have a detrimental impact on learning.</p>		<p>Parents will be advised that children can attend school and they will be encouraged to get a PCR test this will mean no lost learning time.</p>	<p>positive case to identify close 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.</p>	<p>if they are a close contact.</p>		
<p><u>Face coverings in the case of a local outbreak</u></p> <p>Contact with those who are not normally in school may introduce CV19 into the school community. Where there are high local cases of CV19 there maybe a chance that CV19 enters the school community and is spread via</p>	<p>Children Staff Visitors might be more at risk or aerosol transmission in areas of high local cases.</p>	<p>Face coverings are no longer advised for pupils, staff and visitors either in classrooms or in communal areas.</p> <p>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 you may come into contact with people you don't normally meet. This includes public transport and dedicated transport to school or college.</p>	<p>Updated visitor guidance will reflect the requirement to wear a face covering when visiting the internal parts of the school including the reception area.</p> <p>In the case of an outbreak in our school, a director of public health might advise that face coverings should temporarily be worn in communal areas or classrooms (by staff and visitors, unless exempt)</p>	<p>Office staff to share updated visitor guidance and display this in the reception area.</p>	<p>1st September 2021</p>	

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aerosol transmission on the school gates or in the school building in communal areas.		<p>Staff should wear face covering in communal spaces and are now required to wear face coverings at the school gate and when meeting with parents inside or outside.</p> <p>Visitors to school are now required to wear face coverings inside the school at all times and if they are meeting face to face with a teacher on the gate. – no visitors in school allowed</p> <p>Parents should wear a face mask in the school carpark as it is impossible to socially distance at busy times.</p>	<p>Acceptable face covering include: Face coverings (whether transparent or cloth) should fit securely around the face to cover the nose and mouth and be made with a breathable material capable of filtering airborne particles. Face visors or shields can be worn by those exempt from wearing a face covering but they are not an equivalent alternative in terms of source control of virus transmission.</p>			
<p>Poor attendance Poor attendance will have negative impact on pupils academic progress and their physical and mental wellbeing</p>	Children Staff	<p>All children and staff including those deemed to be CEV are currently expected to attend school. Where children do not attend school the HT will contact their families to discuss and support their return to school.</p>	<p>Where a child is required to self-isolate or quarantine because of COVID-19 in accordance with relevant legislation or guidance published by PHE or the DHSC they should be recorded as code X (not attending in circumstances related to coronavirus). In this</p>	DHT	ongoing	

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			<p>case remote learning will be provided on Google Classrooms within 48 hours of the school being notified of the need to isolate. Work is not provided on Google classrooms where children are absent from school for other illness or in cases where parents have kept children at home due to covid fear, work will not be provided and the DHT will discuss support to return to school (further information about our remote education can be found in the remote education policy on our website).</p> <p>Social distancing measures have now ended in the workplace and it is no longer necessary for the government to instruct people to work from home. Our school business manager will discuss the measures we have in place to keep CEV staff safe at work.</p>	School business manager		

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<p><u>Illness</u> High Levels of staff illness including SLT illness</p>	<p>In the case of high numbers of staff being absent there maybe the need to move to some or complete online learning to ensure safety and ongoing provision of education.</p> <p>There must be a DSL onsite or contactable on the phone at all times.</p> <p>There must be a designated SLT member on site or contactable on the phone at all times.</p>	<p>The school has 4 trained DSLs to ensure there is a contactable DSL at all times.</p> <p>The school has a team of 4 SLT members to ensure there is a contactable SLT member at all times.</p> <p>The school has 4 HLTAs who can cover classes when required.</p> <p>In the case that both the HT and DHT are too unwell to lead the school remotely by phone a member of the SLT will step up and lead supported by an experienced HT from the local collaboration.</p>	<p>Ensure that staff are well rested and have time to eat a healthy diet. Provide additional fruit to staff to boost immune systems.</p>	<p>JL</p>	<p>Fruit in school for staff from 28.11.21 onwards</p>	
<p><u>LFD testing</u></p>	<p>Increase in covid cases in school</p>	<p>All staff and regular visitors should engage in LFD testing twice a week.</p>		<p>SBM</p>		

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		All visitors to school should have taken an LFD test before arrival.	Ensure adequate supplies of LFD tests in school			

Assessment carried out by: Mrs J Langton Headteacher

Signed by Chair of Governors:

Date assessment was carried out: Term 2 2021 13.12.21

Date signed:

Date of next review: Term 3 2021