

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).

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<p><u>Contacting 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 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 	<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 resources which teachers will use as part of</p>	<p>Class teachers</p>	<p>Ongoing reminders about hygiene Termly teaching using e-bug resources.</p>	

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		<p>cases of COVID-19</p> <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>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><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</p>	<p>Cleaner line managed by School business manager</p> <p>Class teachers and site manager.</p>		

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			<p>home and they should follow public health advice.</p> <p>Those with symptoms 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>			
<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</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</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</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 	<p>Ongoing from September 2021</p>	<p>09/21</p>

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<p>happen when someone breathes in small particles in the air (aerosols) after a person with the 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>19 if present in the air.</p>	<p>transmission if the rooms are used within the occupancy limits specified in the building design, and have a sufficient fresh air supply.</p> <p>Where possible PE lessons should be carried out outside or in the hall with 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>break times to change the air in the room.</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>In the case of local large scale</p>	<p>Guidance no longer recommends that it</p>	<p>In case of an outbreak bubbles would be reinstated in line with 2020/21 RA as follows:</p>	<p>The decision to revert to bubbles will</p>	<p>Only in the case of a</p>	

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<p>A large outbreak of CV19 cases within the local community or school</p>	<p>outbreaks staff and children are likely to be more at risk from mixing in large groups as this increases the risk of aerosol, droplet from close contact and contact transmission of CV19.</p>	<p>is necessary to keep children in 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</p>	<p>Bubble 1: EYFS Bubble 2: KS1 Bubble 3: KS2</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 package, a director of public health might advise a setting to temporarily reintroduce some control measures.</p>	<p>be taken by the Headteacher and the governing body will be informed.</p>	<p>local outbreak.</p>	

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		delivery of education.				
<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 have a detrimental impact on learning.</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>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>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 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>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 if they are a close contact.</p>	On going from 16 th August 2021	

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<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 aerosol transmission on the school gates or in the school building in communal areas.</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</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>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>Office staff to share updated visitor guidance and display this in the reception area.</p>	<p>1st September 2021</p>	

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		<p>transport and dedicated transport to school or college.</p> <p>Staff will be given the choice to continue to wear face covering in communal spaces and at the school gate.</p> <p>Visitors to school will still be asked to wear face coverings in communal areas.</p>				
<p><u>Poor attendance</u> Poor attendance will have negative impact on pupils academic progress and their physical and mental wellbeing</p>	<p>Children Staff</p>	<p>All children and staff including those deemed to be CEV are currently expected to attend school. Where children do not attend school the</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 casee remote learning will be provided on Google Classrooms within 48 hours of the school being notified of</p>	<p>DHT</p>	<p>ongoing</p>	

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		DHT will contact their families to discuss and support their return to school.	<p>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		

Assessment carried out by: Mrs J Langton Headteacher

Date assessment was carried out: Term 1 2021

Date of next review: Term 2 2021

Signed by Chair of Governors:

Date signed: