

# **CORONAVIRUS (COVID 19)**



## Plan B (AUTUMN TERM) - RISK ASSESSMENT

1.	Assessment No:	StJCPS/COV19 - 2 (Issue 4.1 Omicron)
2.	Activity/Process:	INFECTION PREVENTION
	Assessment Date:	Dec 2021 (amended)
	Assessor:	Brian Birkin-Hewitt (Tech IOSH) School H&SA
	Next Review Due:	As and when required authority directive
3.	Number of Persons at Risk	Employees     Others       1

#### 4. Hazards:

- Children or staff who are more vulnerable to the 'Covid-19' virus because of pre-existing health conditions
- Children or staff who will become vulnerable to the 'Covid-19' virus
- Non-school staff personnel<sup>A</sup> entering the schools' occupied areas

### 5. Proposed procedures/controls:

- Where and if possible, keep teaching and support staff with a designated Class-Group 'Bubble'<sup>1 and 3</sup>
- Ensure that large playground equipment is regularly cleaned
- Request Staff to use the Staff Room judiciously and follow the spirit of avoiding large groups indoors, for any protracted period<sup>3</sup>
- The wearing of face masks and/or a visor is mandatory for <u>all adults</u> when in communal and/or closed space environments (it is not mandatory when teaching)
- Monitor and maintain air quality<sup>4</sup> in routinely occupied areas; follow ventilation recommendations where practicable to do so
- Utilise open air environments, as much as it is possible to do so
- Maintain a quarantine system for the return and exchange of schoolbooks, reading books, textbooks and stationery, etc. [e.g. a minimum of 48 hours between uses]
- Repeat reminders to all staff and children about a diligent hand washing regimen
- Actively encourage the use of tissues or a folded elbow if coughing or sneezing
- Maintain the daily cleaning protocols in each of the classrooms and all other 'common' areas. (iaw the Cleaning Agency's schedule<sup>2</sup>)
- Staff members should clean school telephones and/or any commonly used hardware (e.g. the photocopier) before and after use
- Direct children not to share foodstuffs or drinks

- Place additional rubbish bags throughout the school for the disposal of empty lunch containers/bags and unwanted foodstuffs
- Use PPE if/when routine first aid attention is required for children or staff
- Advise children (and parents) to:
  - · use disposable bags or easy-wipe containers for lunch time foodstuffs
  - provide their own drinks container/bottle, marked with their name
  - · Bring personal items into school in a single small bag, marked with their name
- Advise parents:
  - of the revised responsibilities for testing and advising the school and the authorities of suspected cases of infection in their children
  - that a child identified as a 'Close Contact' by NHSTAT is not to brought into school until a PCR test has been conducted and declared as Negative
  - that any child displaying Covid-19 Symptoms whilst in school, however mild, will be immediately
    isolated and will be required to the leave school without delay (collected by the parent) to undertake
    the appropriate testing
- Strictly restrict access to the main school site and school premises to school staff personnel only

Notes:

- A: Non-school staff personnel are those who are not within the remit of the Headteachers Management and consequently their health status (CV, CEV, Vaccinated, Un-Vaccinated etc) cannot be assured
- Teachers may operate between different 'Bubbles' however, endeavour to minimise any time spent within 1m of a pupil Note: There is now no requirement to maintain 'Bubbles' however, should an Outbreak<sup>5</sup> occur, PHE may order their reinstatement until the Outbreak is controlled
- 2. See the section 'CLEANING'
- 3. There is however no mandatory requirement to maintain 'Social Distancing'
- 4. CO<sup>2</sup> monitors will be used to facilitate the recognition of poor air quality conditions within the school's occupied areas. All Staff will be familiarised with the use of the monitors, the interpretation of the displayed information and the appropriate actions when and if necessary
- 5. An 'Outbreak' may be declared by HPT/PHE if the school incurs several positive infection cases in a 14-day period

# 6. The Residual Risk(s) Remaining: (After implementation of proposed procedures) Risk Rating: • Child or staff member contracting the virus Likelihood x Severity = Rating/Action • Child or staff member contracting the virus 3 x 1 = 3 Monitor Procedures • Virus contamination from unaware (asymptomatic) individuals 4 x 1 = 4 Monitor Procedures • Child or staff member attending school although advised not to by NHSTAT 2 x 3 = 6 Improve Procedures

## 7. Additional procedures/controls suggested/required:

(Reduce Residual Risks if practicable to a Risk Rating of 4 or below)

- Children who are infected or display any indications of Covid-Omicron symptoms, however mild, or have been identified by NHSTAT as a 'Close Contact' with someone who has Covid-Omicron will not be permitted entry into the school
- Primary school children who are advised by NHSTAT that they have been identified as a Close Contact with a Covid-19 case do not need to self-isolate; the child may and should continue to attend school (see also RA 19-4 s7)
- Staff are to Self-Isolate and follow PHE advice if they have:
  - Any Covid-19 symptoms (fever, severe headache, new persistent cough, loss of smell or taste [anosmia]) symptoms<sup>1</sup>
  - Any Covid Omicron symptoms (extreme tiredness, muscle aches, scratchy throat, dry cough [taste and smell senses are not affected])<sup>2</sup>
  - A household member who has Covid-19 symptoms<sup>1</sup>
  - Been in contact with an individual who has Covid-19 symptoms<sup>1</sup>
  - Visited a country subject to Government directed quarantine measures
  - Had a positive test (LFD or PCR)
  - Been advised by NHSTAT that they should isolate
- Staff Members are to self-assess and must not attend school if any indications of Covid-19 or Covid-Omicron symptoms are evident; the Headteacher is to be advised immediately
- Staff Members will be expected to perform Lateral Flow Device (LFD) home testing 2 x per week until
  advised otherwise, and if the LFD test indicates a potential positive infection stay at home (advise the
  Headteacher) and immediately apply for PCR testing
- Any female Staff Member who falls pregnant is to advise the Headteacher immediately to initiate a Risk Assessment specific to the Coronavirus risk (and iaw General RA 52)
- 1. Any member of staff who is fully vaccinated does not need to self-isolate following 'Close Contact' with someone who is symptomatic. Those who are not fully vaccinated but are deemed by NHSTAT to have been in 'Close Contact' with someone who is symptomatic, must follow the guidelines for 'Households with a positive or confirmed case of Covid-19 infection'
- 2. Anyone identified as a Close Contact with a positive case of Omicron, regardless of vaccination status or age will be required t immediately Self-Isolate and undertake a PCR Test asap

#### Definition of 'Close Contact': (Covid-19 or Covid-Omicron)

- Anyone who lives in the same household as someone with Coronavirus symptoms or who has tested positive for either Covid-19 or Covid-Omicron
- Anyone who has had any of the following types of contact with someone who has tested positive for either variant of the Coronavirus with a PCR or LFD test:
  - face-to-face contact, being coughed on, or a face-to-face conversation within 1 metre
  - been within 1m for 1 minute or longer without face-to-face contact
  - been within 2m of someone for more than 15 minutes (either as a one instance or total in the one day)
  - travelled in the same vehicle or aircraft
  - any sexual contact

#### 8. Headteacher Approval:

Date Implemented: 13 Dec 2021

Comments:

Signed and Appointment:

(Headteacher St Joseph's Primary School)

Procedures Effective: Yes/No

Name: Mrs Susan Woods

Next Review Date: As determined by an Authority directive that requires changes to the implemented procedures

#### 9. Chair of Governors Awareness:

Date: 13 Dec 2021

Comments:

Signed and Appointment:

Procedures Effective: Yes/No

(Chair of Governors St Joseph's Primary School)

Name: Mr Gregory Fauvarque

#### **RISK RATING**

#### **RATING ACTION BANDS**

LIKELIHOOD SEVERITY OF HARM

RATING BANDS

- 1. Most unlikely 1. Minimal
- 2. Unlikely
- 3. Likely
- Requires isolation
   Requires quarantine
- 4. Most Likely 4. VSI/Fatal

1 Minimal Risk 2 - 4 Low Risk 6 - 9 High Risk

12 -16 Very High

Maintain Procedures Monitor Procedures Improve Procedures Revise Procedures - stop all

ACTION REQUIRED

#### Risk Rating = 'Likelihood' score x 'Severity' score