**UPDATED RISK ASSESSMENT FOR COLLEGE – LIVING WITH COVID FROM 1st APRIL 2022**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location: Birkenhead Sixth Form College, CH43 8SQ</th>
<th>Date assessment undertaken: 1st April 2022</th>
<th>Assessment undertaken by: Jeanne Fairbrother and Paula Blakemore, Vice Principal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Activity or situation: <strong>Full Opening of College 1st April 2022</strong></td>
<td>Review date: On-going</td>
<td>Signature: Paula Blakemore</td>
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**Background information**

From 1 April, the government’s guidance on living with COVID-19 replaces the DfE’s operational guidance for schools.

This applies to all Colleges.

**Legislation and guidance**

Health and Safety at Work Act etc. 1974
Management of H&S at Work Regulations 1999
Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992

N.B. All risk assessments referred to within this document have been revised and are available on our website.

The Risk Assessment is a ‘living document’ that is kept under continual review with a hierarchy of controls to reduce the risk of coronavirus to the lowest reasonably practicable level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area of Control</th>
<th>Control Measures</th>
<th>Further actions?</th>
<th>Implemented by (initials)</th>
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</table>
| The need to have an adequate outbreak management/contingency plans to allow for stepping measures up and down. | • The College has a Coronavirus (COVID-19) Contingency Plan risk assessment. (also known as an outbreak management plan) if restrictions need to be implemented due to COVID 19 variants outbreak.  
• The College will only:  
  o Consider attendance restrictions as a last resort  
  o Keep measures to the minimum number of groups possible  
  o Keep measures for the shortest amount of time possible | | SMT |
- The College will take **extra steps** to manage the transmission of COVID-19 and seek public health advice if the number of positive cases reaches a certain threshold.
- The College will follow measures recommended by the Local Authority, Director of Public Health and local protection teams (HPTs) as part of the outbreak management responsibilities.
- The College will refer to [UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) health protection in education and childcare settings](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/health-protection-in-education-and-childcare-settings) including Cheshire & Merseyside PHE contact 0344 225 0562

### Face coverings
- Face coverings are no longer advised for students, staff and visitors in classrooms or communal areas.
- Staff and students should follow wider advice on face coverings outside of College, including on transport to and from College.
- College may be advised by a director of public health that face coverings should temporarily be worn in communal areas or classrooms (by students, staff and visitors, unless exempt). The College has contingency plans that cover this possibility.

### Ensuring good hygiene & cleaning standards in College to reduce risk of transmission.

**Hand hygiene**
- College will continue to ensure that staff & students maintain high standards of hand hygiene.
- Suitable facilities are provided for individuals to wash/sanitise their hands regularly

**Cleaning**
- College will maintain appropriate cleaning regimes, using standard products such as detergents with a focus on frequently touched areas.

### Events in College
- The College will complete a separate risk assessment for any events held in College following the latest UKHSA guidance

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RA 029A Full Opening of school v10 1st April 2022
| Ventilation - ensuring all occupied spaces are well ventilated. | - When the College is in operation, it is well ventilated with **comfortable** teaching environments.
- Poorly ventilated spaces have been identified and appropriate mitigation measures put in place. | Premises Manager |
|---|---|---|
| Close contacts | - From 24 February, routine contact tracing will end. Contacts will no longer be required to self-isolate or advised to take daily tests.
- Local health teams continue to use contact tracing and provide context-specific advice where they assess this to be necessary as part of their role in managing infectious diseases.
- Staff or students who are close contacts should:
  - avoid contact with anyone who is at higher risk of becoming severely unwell if they are infected with COVID-19, especially those whose immune system means they are at higher risk of serious illness from COVID-19, despite vaccination
  - limit close contact with other people especially in crowded, enclosed or poorly ventilated spaces
  - wear a well-fitting face covering made with multiple layers or a surgical face mask if you do need to have close contact with other people, or you are in a crowded place
  - wash hands frequently with soap and water or use hand sanitiser | SMT |
| Positive case unaware of new guidance | - Those with a positive test result will be advised to try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people:
  - Staff for 5 days
  - Students 18 and under, for 3 days
- Both students and staff should try to stay home and avoid contact with others if they have symptoms of a respiratory infection and a high temperature or if they feel unwell (returning to school when they feel well enough, and no longer have a high temperature) | SMT |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Asymptomatic testing</strong></th>
<th><strong>People at higher risk of becoming seriously unwell from a respiratory infection, including COVID-19</strong></th>
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</thead>
</table>
| • Staff and students are no longer required to carry out twice weekly asymptomatic testing.  
• Free testing no longer available for Colleges and no longer advised in specialist settings  
• If there’s an outbreak in College, local directors of public health might advise testing for staff, and for students, for a period of time  
• Spare tests should be kept and only used if advised by local health protection team, local authority or director of public health. | • The College is aware that certain staff and students may be at higher risk becoming seriously unwell from respiratory infections.  
• People in this category are advised to follow [Living safely with respiratory infections including Covid 19](#)  
• The College will discuss any concerns with employees and parents/carers. And this may form the basis of a personal risk assessment.  
• Staff who have received personal advice from their specialist or clinician on additional precautions to take should continue to follow that advice and advise College. |

| SMT | SMT |

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- older people
- those who are pregnant
- those who are unvaccinated
- people of any age whose immune system means they are at higher risk of serious illness
- people of any age with certain long-term conditions