

FCAT

Fylde Coast Academy Trust

COVID-19 Risk assessment / Outbreak Management Plan

Academy	MERESIDE PRIMARY
Activity / Procedure	Covid-19 RA and Contingency (Outbreak Plan)
Assessment date	Autumn Term 2021
Review date	To be reviewed and updated frequently in light of any updates to existing government guidance or any new guidance.

Identified groups at risk	
Staff	YES
Pupils	YES
Visitors	YES
Contractors	YES

Name of assessor(s)	Signature of assessor(s)	Date
		01st September 2021

Information

The health, safety and wellbeing of all staff, pupils, visitors and contractors is of utmost importance to FCAT. This Risk Assessment is to give all staff, parents/carers and pupils the assurance that appropriate control measures are being put in place in response to coronavirus (COVID-19). It reflects current Government guidance. The national response to the pandemic continues to change and evolve as does the guidance.

This risk assessment does not supersede any legal obligations relating to health and safety, employment or equalities.

FCAT's existing health and safety responsibilities and those of our staff as outlined in our health and safety policies continue to apply. All required control measures are implemented in order to manage the risk effectively in the same way we normally would with other health and safety related risks. FCAT recognises that COVID-19 is a work-related risk that requires the same management approach as any other: undertake a risk assessment, identify the necessary control measures, implement these including safe working practices, consult with staff and manage and monitor the effectiveness of the control measures.

The control measures that are now needed are very different to those that were previously required when the consequences associated with COVID-19 were significant.

These new arrangements take account of the following factors:

- The direct clinical risks to children are extremely low
- That individuals who are at an increased risk are individually assessed (staff and pupils)
- Vaccination programme status
- The negative impact of disruption to education

This Risk Assessment

- Reflects the latest guidance, endorsed by the Department for Education and Public Health England for schools
- Sets out the control measures which are required

[Contingency framework: education and childcare settings](#)(Updated 17th August 2021)[Offices, factories and labs - Working safely during coronavirus \(COVID-19\): guidance from Step 4 - Guidance](#) (Updated 17th August 2021)[Actions for schools during the coronavirus outbreak](#)(Updated 27th August 2021)[\(COVID-19\) Coronavirus restrictions: what you can and cannot do](#)(Updated 20th August 2021)[Guidance on shielding and protecting people who are clinically extremely vulnerable from COVID-19](#)(Updated 11th August 2021)[COVID-19: cleaning of non-healthcare settings outside the home](#) (Updated 19th July 2021)[Guidance, Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): disposing of waste](#)(Updated 19th July 2021)[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): safer travel guidance for passengers](#)(Updated 16th August 2021)[Home COVID-19: guidance for first responders](#)(Updated 16th August 2021)[Guidance on protecting people who are clinically extremely vulnerable from COVID-19](#)(updated 11th August 2021)[Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#) (Updated 13th August 2021) [What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges](#) (19th July 2021)

This risk assessment does not follow the traditional format for a risk assessment. It covers the control measures needed to manage the risks presented by COVID-19 as low as possible in line with community risk levels; therefore, the need for scoring or prioritising control implementation is negated. The measures relate to all the persons who may be affected: staff, pupils, contractors and visitors. xxxxxxxx academy has identified Areas of risk / Control measures and described how they are implementing these with further information, as required, in the notes box. Any additional control measures, specific to the academy, are provided at the end of the risk assessment.

The control measures that are now needed are very different to those that were previously required when the consequences associated with COVID-19 were significant.

FCAT will continue to ensure good hygiene for everyone, maintain appropriate cleaning regimes, keep occupied spaces well ventilated, and follow public health advice on testing and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19. All settings will continue their strong messaging about signs and symptoms, isolation advice and testing and to support prompt isolation of suspected cases. FCAT will also continue to encourage vaccination uptake for eligible students and staff. All early years providers, schools and colleges are continuing to put in place measures to help minimise the risk of spreading COVID-19. These include handwashing, use of face coverings in specific situations, enhancing cleaning, ventilation and managing suspected and confirmed cases.

Government guidance sets out the following controls:[Schools COVID-19 operational guidance – GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) (17th August 2021).

CONTROLS:

1. Ensure good hygiene for everyone.
2. Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes.
3. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.
4. Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.

FCAT will implement 2 additional control measures:

5. PPE
6. Respectful space (Respect is one of the core values of FCAT).



Area of risk	Control Measures in place	Notes / Further information
Cleaning	<p>The academy has developed specific cleaning schedules for items that need cleaning and disinfection. The schedule details all items, frequencies and who is responsible for this following the information detailed in the compliance code. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleaning all touch points including those that are fixed to the premises (inside and out) twice a day • Equipment and resources are disinfected on a daily basis as a minimum. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Soft furnishings are disinfected with a proprietary fabric disinfectant spray. 2. Frequency of cleaning and disinfection of equipment is increased based on risk e.g. the number of different users who are handling equipment and resources, the ability of users to undertake effective hand hygiene • Consideration has been given to times of high use and frequency of disinfection increased accordingly where possible. • Shared touch points in staff areas such as those on microwaves, kettles, fridges and photocopiers are wiped down before and after use • If a surface is visibly dirty it is always cleaned prior to disinfection. • Different cleaning equipment is provided for kitchens, toilets, classrooms and office areas. <p>All Staff who undertake cleaning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know the schedule information. • Have received relevant training/instruction • Will follow the instructions for cleaning products and disinfectants to ensure it is effective to ensure that all of the surface has disinfectant applied and not to wipe items dry before the required contact time has been achieved. • Are provided with disinfectant wipes to enable them to clean and disinfect contact points in teaching spaces and equipment. 	<p>Please attach your Academy cleaning schedule and rota September 2021 and cleaning Risk assessment (Please refer to your local procedures)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate cleaning scheduled to be carried out twice a day to ensure enhanced cleaning of school is in place. • Stock levels of cleaning goods are checked daily/weekly. • Cleaning is allocated to staffing so that they have their own cleaning areas and a separate signing sheet is used to monitor. • Cleaning Supervisor checks cleaning at the end of each night and the Site Supervisor and Business Manager, carry out in depth checking of cleaning and standards. <p>Refer to the below for in depth processes and checks. Cleaning Protocol Premises Checklist.docx CLEANING Risk Assessment - AUG 21.doc</p>
Hand hygiene and respiratory hygiene arrangements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff are ensuring that hand hygiene is carried out more frequently than normal (pupils and themselves) in an age appropriate way e.g. observing young pupils, instructing in the class (How to hand rub and NHS guidance for handwashing). • Event related prompts are given to pupils by staff.....after..... before.... when as a more effective means of promoting hand hygiene than fixed time prompts. • Supervision arrangements are in place to support pupils with handwashing where it is needed. • Skin-friendly wipes such as baby wipes / antibacterial are provided as an alternative where children are not able to wash their hands due to age or health conditions. • Hand hygiene frequencies include: arrival, before and after eating, before and after breaks, going to the toilet, before leaving, after removing a face covering, after handling resources (including those taken home) and at other identified intervals determined by the setting in relation to the activities carried out. • Pupils and staff are aware of the need to avoid touching their eyes, nose or mouth if hands have not been washed. • Staff and pupils have been advised to avoid wearing rings (except for a plain band) in order to ensure thorough hand washing. • Entrances are supervised on arrival in the morning to support hand sanitising. • Staff, pupils (and parents) are advised that handwashing must be carried out when they arrive at home • Hand washing is carried out using running water. • Hand dryers are efficient and effective in quick drying or have been replaced with more efficient dryers or paper towels. • Hand sanitiser points are provided at key locations around the site including: at all entrance doors to the setting, at the entrance to toilet facilities, at the entrance to dining facilities, at points of high contact such as near non-automatic doors in corridors, lifts and stairs, classrooms, office facilities etc. • The location of sanitiser points is reviewed where there are changes to use of different areas of the premises. • Hand sanitiser points are checked regularly and stock replenished where necessary. 	<p>(Local actions for your academy to be referenced here)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand Sanitising stations are installed around school • Sanitising stations are set up in classrooms • Antibacterial wipes are available for use on desks and other surfaces as required • Stock levels are kept high and monitored by the Site Supervisor regularly • Pupils receive regular instruction on 'good hygiene' practices including hand washing techniques

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration has been given to outside points being provided in a manner that enables removal and securing at the end of the day e.g. on tables/temporary or movable stands etc. • Hand sanitiser is stored appropriately and safely according to pupil age and individual risks. Where the provision of hand sanitiser points presents a risk of ingestion, this risk is managed through pupil supervision (contact will be made with Health, Safety and Well-Being where this is not possible) • Tissues and waste bins are provided in classrooms and other areas to ensure good respiratory hygiene. • Bins are emptied regularly throughout the day • All staff and pupils are regularly reminded about following Catch it, Kill it, Bin it requirements. 	
<p>Ventilation Use of outside space</p>	<p>Outside space will be used where it is possible. All areas of the academy have been reviewed including meeting rooms and office spaces.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mechanical ventilation has been checked to ensure it provides fresh air to rooms • Where installed, the setup of air conditioning systems has been reviewed and adjusted to maximise the intake of fresh air. • Where fresh air provision is not adequate, windows are also opened in these areas. • Where systems serve multiple buildings or are fully recirculating, advice has been sought from qualified engineers and recommendations have been implemented. • Doors and windows are kept open where possible and safe (in premises with no or limited fresh air mechanical ventilation systems) • Where fire doors need to be kept open to support ventilation, alarm activated door openers have been installed to ensure fire safety is maintained. • Non fire doors are secured in the open position • Window restrictors are fitted where needed for premises user safety and to prevent unauthorised access. • Identifying any poorly ventilated spaces and taking steps to improve fresh air flow in these areas following HSE guidance <p>During cooler weather:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Windows are fully opened before rooms are occupied and during breaks. • Windows are kept partially open when rooms are in use, windows are selected that are not directly next to work areas/pupils desks or high level windows are open fully and low level opened partially • Information has been provided to parents, carers and pupils to dress appropriately for cooler temperatures. • Where fans are needed in offices, discussion has taken place with staff who use that space to agree terms of use. • Where fans are needed in classrooms and other educational areas, a decision for their use has been made by the Headteacher in conjunction with staff. <p>Where rooms cannot be adequately ventilated (naturally or mechanically), they have been taken out of use (subject to the below improvements that can be made in some instances)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The room use has been modified to limit access to one person at a time, provide space between occupation and reduce occupancy time to 30 minutes or less • Equipment, machinery that prevent air circulating have been relocated where possible • Tasks that take place in these areas have been reviewed, those that increase generation of aerosols have been modified for these areas (such as physical exertion). • Fans are not used in poorly ventilated areas. 	<p>e.g. include details regarding levels of CO2 monitoring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School has windows that can be opened in all rooms, corridors and communal areas. • Staff have Mereside Uniform (Fleeces, Hoodies) that can be used in cooler weather if temperatures are lower. <p>CO2 monitors will also be provided to all state-funded education settings from September, so staff can quickly identify where ventilation needs to be improved. Further information will be issued as monitors are rolled out.</p>
<p>PPE and Face coverings</p>	<p>GOV advice:(Updated 27th August 2021)Schools COVID-19 operational guidance – GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</p> <p>Face coverings are no longer advised for pupils, staff and visitors either in classrooms or in communal areas. The government has removed the requirement to wear face coverings in law but expects and recommends that they be 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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face coverings are no longer advised for pupils, staff and visitors either in classrooms or in communal areas. • The government has removed the requirement to wear face coverings in law but expects and

	<p>Appropriate PPE is provided for catering, cleaning and site staff.</p> <p>FCAT will provide this PPE free of charge to employees who need it.</p> <p>Face coverings are no longer required by law. However, the government expects and recommends that people continue to wear face coverings in crowded, enclosed spaces.</p> <p>All pupils, staff and visitors may choose to wear a face covering in the workplace.</p> <p>FCAT supports that some people are not able to wear face coverings, and the reasons for this may not be visible to others.</p>	<p>recommends that they be worn in enclosed and crowded spaces where someone may come into contact with people they don't normally meet. This includes public transport and dedicated transport to school.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • However, FCAT Central team members who may be visiting more than one school during a day will be advised to wear a face-covering (unless exempt). FCAT supports that some people are not able to wear face coverings, and the reasons for this may not be visible to others. • If there is an outbreak, a director of public health might advise FCAT that face coverings should temporarily be worn in communal areas or classrooms (by pupils, staff and visitors, unless exempt). • The FCAT Outbreak Management Plan covers this possibility.
<p>Educational visits and use of third-party premises</p>	<p>Recommendations not to go on international visits are followed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff involved in the risk assessment are familiar with EVOLVE and any specific industry guidance that relates to the activity. • The provider has confirmed that they are managing the risk of COVID-19 via completion of the FCAT provider form. • Where appropriate, the third-party provider is involved in planning arrangements. • Arrangements are in place to encourage Asymptomatic Testing for school staff and secondary school pupils before and after the visit • Arrangements are in place to obtain assurance from the venue regarding how staff participate in regular testing. • A thorough risk assessment is completed in addition to the normal process using EVOLVE and includes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Arrangements for cleaning, ventilation, maintenance of personal hygiene and where possible keeping respectful distance from others including other groups and individuals using the facilities 2. There is an appropriate level of insurance cover for the visit 3. The venue has provided the academy with visitor information and briefings, including details of their COVID-19 arrangements • Additional factors needed for children (and staff) with SEND and medical conditions have been considered. • There are contingency plans in place, for example, to respond to symptoms developing in the group. • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FCAT Outbreak Management Plan. • Any attendance restrictions will be reflected in the visits risk assessment and setting. FCAT leaders and EVC will consider carefully if the educational visit is still appropriate and safe. • Any volunteer helps the support on Educational Trips will be expected to adhere to our school processes and procedures and instruction will be given to them by the trip organiser.
<p>Local outbreak impacting on the ability to open academy. Stepping Measures up and down</p>	<p>Contingency framework: education and childcare settings (Updated 17th August 2021)</p> <p>FCAT has an outbreak management plan (sometimes called contingency plan) outlining how they would operate. This includes how they would ensure every child, pupil or student receives the quantity and quality of education and care to which they are normally entitled.</p> <p>Schools COVID-19 operational guidance – GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</p> <p>Given the detrimental impact that restrictions on education can have on children and young people, any measures within FCAT will only ever be considered as a last resort, kept to the minimum number of schools or groups possible, and for the shortest amount of time possible.</p>	<p>FCAT Outbreak Management Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local authorities, DsPH and HPTs are responsible for managing localised outbreaks. • They play an important role in providing support and advice to education and childcare settings. FCAT will collaborate with public health and the local authority.

Transport and travel	<p>Children and young people aged under 18 years 6 months who usually attend an education or childcare setting and who have been identified as a close contact should continue to attend the setting as normal. They do not need to wear a face covering within the setting, but it is expected and recommended that these are worn when travelling on public or dedicated transport.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils, parents and staff have been advised not to use school transport if they have symptoms • Pupils, parents and staff have been advised to wash or sanitise their hands before and after using transport services and following guidance for the removal of face coverings where worn. • Staff do not transport a symptomatic pupil • Staff and secondary pupils continue to use face coverings when using school transport unless exempt from doing so • Pupils, parents/carers are advised to follow transport provider requirements to wear face coverings • Staff are encouraged to wear face coverings when using public transport. 	<p>(Please reference any specific travel arrangements here)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whilst the legal requirement to wear a face covering has been lifted from 19 July, the government expects and recommends that people continue to wear face coverings in crowded areas, such as public transport. • Wearing a face covering, especially when there is close contact between people in enclosed and crowded spaces will still help to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19. • It may also help those who are clinically extremely vulnerable feel more relaxed. It is important that face coverings fit securely around the face and safely cover the mouth and the nose.
Visitors	<p>Visitors are advised of the following in advance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That you encourage participation in asymptomatic testing • Specific arrangements for the meeting, for example, applying respectful distance where possible. • The time of visits occur so that visitors are separated from staff and pupils where possible. • Visits are managed to encourage space creation e.g. through meeting in outside spaces or large well ventilated rooms with furniture spread out. • To leave the setting immediately if they develop symptoms. • Hand shaking should be avoided. • On arrival visitors will be: • Provided with relevant site information • Asked to perform hand hygiene • Asked to confirm that they do not have symptoms no matter how mild or are currently required to isolate. • Consideration is given to the layout and use of the reception area and meeting rooms, for example, chairs are moved further apart and sit side by side where possible. 	<p>(Please reference any further controls you may have here)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face coverings are no longer advised for pupils, staff and visitors either in classrooms or in communal areas. • The government has removed the requirement to wear face coverings in law but expects and recommends that: 'they be worn in enclosed and crowded spaces where you may come into contact with people you don't normally meet'. Catering staff when on site are expected to follow school processes and procedures
Catering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where catering services are contracted, the setting has ensured that the service is following the relevant government guidance • Directly provided catering services follow relevant government guidance • Vending machine disinfection is incorporated into the touch point cleaning arrangements • Consideration has been given to the number of touch points and that some parts may be hard to clean, e.g. collection cash slot, therefore performing hand hygiene before and after use is reinforced. • Hand sanitiser and disinfectant wipes are provided next to them with instructions to use before and after 	<p>(Additional Information here)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catering staff when on site are expected to follow school processes and procedures
Asymptomatic testing Tracing and self - isolation	<p>Autumn Term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secondary pupils are offered 2 onsite lateral flow tests 3 to 5 days apart on their return (this can commence 3 working days before the start of term and staggered return is applied across the first week). • Staff and secondary pupils are encouraged to continue to test twice weekly until notified. • FCAT will follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19 • Anyone who has symptoms must isolate and take a PCR test • Individuals who return a positive LFT result will need to self-isolate immediately and order a confirmatory PCR test. • The risk assessment for LFD testing have been completed as appropriate <p>Tracing close contacts and isolation</p> <p>Individuals are not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19, and any of the following apply:</p>	<p>LFD RA reviewed and updated September 2021 following Gov guidance. Please attach to this RA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Settings were required to do contact tracing prior to 19 July 2021. • Close contacts will now be identified via NHS Test and Trace and education settings will no longer be expected to undertake contact tracing. • As with positive cases in any other setting, NHS Test and Trace will work with the positive case and/or their parent to identify close contacts.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • they are fully vaccinated • they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months • they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial • they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons <p>Instead, they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff who do not need to isolate, and children and young people aged under 18 years 6 months who usually attend school, and have been identified as a close contact, should continue to attend school as normal. They do not need to wear a face covering within the school, but it is expected and recommended that these are worn when travelling on public or dedicated transport. • 18-year-olds will be treated in the same way as children until 6 months after their 18th birthday, to allow them the opportunity to get fully vaccinated. At which point, they will be subject to the same rules as adults and so if they choose not to get vaccinated, they will need to self-isolate if identified as a close contact. • FCAT will work with health protection teams in the case of a local outbreak. If there is a substantial increase in the number of positive cases in a setting (see Stepping measures up and down section for more information) 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. (Outbreak Plan). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contacts from a school setting will only be traced by NHS Test and Trace where the positive case and/or their parent specifically identifies the individual as being a close contact. This is likely to be a small number of individuals who would be most at risk of contracting COVID-19 due to the nature of the close contact. You may be contacted in exceptional cases to help with identifying close contacts, as currently happens in managing other infectious diseases.
<p>First Aid</p>	<p>COVID-19 First Aid guidance is followed. Home COVID-19: guidance for first responders (Updated 16th August 2021) First aid training and qualifications are current. First aider actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you have been in close contact with a person and/or have given mouth-to-mouth ventilation there are no additional actions to be taken other than to monitor yourself for symptoms of possible COVID-19. • Wipe down the first aid box after use using a disinfectant wipe. • Replace used PPE so that it is available for the next first aid event • Follow your normal arrangements for recording first aid and checking stock. <p>If emergency service responders are identified as a contact of a case of COVID-19 Emergency service responders who are identified as a contact of a case of COVID-19 may be exempt from self-isolation if they are fully vaccinated. Additional mitigations are required for health and social care staff who are fully vaccinated and have been identified as a contact of a case of COVID-19. Refer to the management of staff and exposed patients and residents in health and social care settings guidance for further information. The following principles will continue to apply for unvaccinated or partially vaccinated service responders who are identified as a contact of a case of COVID-19:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • while providing frontline duties that involve contact with someone with COVID-19, responders will only be exempt from being considered a close-contact for the purposes of contact tracing and isolation if clinical grade PPE has been worn appropriately, and if they have received and followed appropriate training in IPC • in all other circumstances where an emergency service responder has had contact with someone with COVID-19 (including in work settings such as staff rooms, canteens, offices and service vehicles), they will be considered a close contact for the purposes of contact tracing and isolation and should self-isolate for 10 full days 	<p>(Details of local arrangements) for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be a member of First Aid trained staff on site and only trained staff carry out First Aid (for primary requires Paediatric First Aid). All First Aid trained staff in primary setting are paediatric trained. • There is a full and complete first aid stock on site at all times. • FCAT First Aid, Accident Administering medicines and EHP Policies are followed.
<p>Workforce management</p>	<p>FCAT risk assessment includes an up-to-date Outbreak Contingency Plan in case there is a COVID-19 outbreak. Objective: To keep people safe when they travel between locations and to and from work FCAT will encourage people travelling together in any one vehicle to, wherever possible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use fixed travel partners 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> do not sit face-to-face open windows <p>Public transport: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-travel-guidance-for-passengers#public-transport The requirement to wear face coverings in law has been lifted. However, the government expects and recommends that people wear face coverings in crowded areas such as public transport.</p> <p>Objective: To make sure all staff understand COVID-19 related safety procedures.</p> <p>FCAT will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicate clearly, consistently and regularly. This will improve understanding and consistency of ways of working. Engage with employees through existing communication routes and recognised professional association representatives and explain and agree to any changes in working arrangements. Communicate with employees prior to returning to site regarding new procedures for arrival at work. <p>Objective: To make sure all staff are updated on how FCAT are implementing or updating safety measures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage with staff on an ongoing basis. This includes dealing with trade unions, or employee representative groups. <p>FCAT will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor and understand any unforeseen impacts of changes to working environments Use simple, clear messaging to explain guidelines using images and clear language within the risk assessment Communicate approaches and operational procedures with suppliers, customers and trade bodies 	
<p>Clinically Extremely Vulnerable - CEV (Staff)</p>	<p>Social distancing guidance no longer applies in England and the UK government is no longer instructing people to work from home if they can. FCAT will talk to any clinically extremely vulnerable workers returning to their workplace, so they can explain the measures being taken to ensure where they are working safely.</p> <p>There are currently no expectations of additional controls specifically for these groups. However, FCAT will ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> we emphasise the importance of individual and wider workforce engagement, buy-in and cooperation to ensure controls are applied stringently through this risk assessment employees have individual discussions with their managers and HR around their particular concerns we discuss the risk management measures we have put in place to minimise transmission to keep them, and others, safe explain the controls that have been put in place to protect them and other staff Individual risk assessment including age, ethnicity, sex and disability, and for any staff concerned about their household members who may be at significantly greater risk. Arrangements for maintaining social distancing in classrooms and elsewhere will be considered in respect of staff who are clinically extremely vulnerable or otherwise at significantly greater risk (as above). <p>Guidance on protecting people who are clinically extremely vulnerable from COVID-19</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At Mereside Primary, there is a small number of identified staff who have conditions that mean they could still be extremely vulnerable to COVID-19. A risk assessment has been carried out and will continue to be reviewed as required with these staff members.
<p>CEV (Pupils)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils will attend unless they are advised not to by a GP or consultant. Specific recommendations will be assessed where required. Individual risk assessments will be carried out for pupils who are at an increased risk Arrangements are in place to ensure that pupils are appropriately supported in relation to mental health and well-being difficulties, Existing arrangements are followed for supporting students who are distressed and where safeguarding issues come to light. Behaviour relating to COVID controls will be managed as it normally would in order to encourage universal hygiene and safety arrangements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At Mereside Primary, there is a small number of identified staff who have conditions that mean they could still be clinically extremely vulnerable to COVID-19. A risk assessment has been carried out and will continue to be reviewed as required with these staff members.
<p>Wellbeing and attendance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrangements are in place to ensure that pupils are appropriately supported in relation to mental health and well-being difficulties, Existing arrangements are followed for supporting students who are distressed and where safeguarding issues come to light. Behaviour relating to COVID controls will be managed as it normally would in order to encourage universal hygiene and safety arrangements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils Welfare support is used at Mereside Primary to help with Attendance issues and barriers to engaging with school. Counselling and mental health support can be accessed through Mrs Walpole (Lead DSL and SENDCo)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parental engagement is encouraged throughout school to support any early help support required.
<p>Staff health and well-being</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All staff requiring a specific risk assessment have been identified, risk assessments have been undertaken in line with COVID-19. • Line Managers to maintain regular and reasonable contact with staff in their teams. • Encourage staff to undertake a workstation risk assessment and consider any equipment staff may require in order to work from home safely. • Encourage staff to take short and regular rest breaks when using a computer screen. • To encourage staff not to work excessively long hours and to take a lunch break. • To promote the Team FCAT Work and Wellbeing Charter. • Continued access for staff to remote wellbeing support from qualified professionals via Line Manager or teamfcatwellbeing.fcat.org.uk monitored by HR daily. • Ongoing signposting of staff to online/phone wellbeing support. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The FCAT Well-Being Charter is used and visually available at Mereside Primary. • Where support is necessary to support a staff member, HR advice and support is sought and the use of Occupational Health is considered as a tool to support where necessary. • SLT operate an open door policy and encourage all staff to approach discussion about any mental health support that is required • Risk Assessment and Stress Risk Assessment tools are used where required to support staff to understand and work through any workplace stressors impacting on mental health.
<p>When an individual develops COVID-19 symptoms or has a positive test</p> <p>Self-Isolation Arrangements – Staff and Pupils</p>	<p>Pupils, staff and other adults should follow public health advice on when to self-isolate and what to do. They 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 an FCAT school develops COVID-19 symptoms, however mild:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils know what the main symptoms are and who to report to if they develop symptoms, no matter how mild and staff will ensure that they go home as soon as possible • Staff check with pupils regarding symptoms on their arrival and remain vigilant for developing symptoms throughout the day • Anyone who has developed symptoms and cannot go home immediately will wait in the designated room • Arrangements are in place for the management of pupils who are not able to communicate their symptoms and staff are aware of these arrangements e.g. temperature checks <p>Staff and pupils know that isolation arrangements must be followed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where notified by NHS Test and Trace • In line with travel - Entering the UK • If the person has COVID-19 symptoms • On receiving a positive LFD or PCR test 	<p>Settings only needed to do contact tracing up to and including 18 July. Close contacts will now be identified via NHS Test and Trace and education settings will no longer be expected to undertake contact tracing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As with positive cases in any other setting, NHS Test and Trace will work with the positive case and/or their parent to identify close contacts. Contacts from a school setting will only be traced by NHS Test and Trace where the positive case and/or their parent specifically identifies the individual as being a close contact. • This is likely to be a small number of individuals who would be most at risk of contracting COVID-19 due to the nature of the close contact. • You may be contacted in exceptional cases to help with identifying close contacts, as currently happens in managing other infectious diseases.
<p>General Arrangements and collaboration</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrangements have been put in place to ensure communication and collaboration between pupils, staff, staff representatives (e.g. unions) and parents/carers. • Communication routes are publicised and have been formally planned. • Staff have been instructed on the nature of COVID-19 and the reasons that control measures have changed (as outlined in the compliance code) • Local arrangements identified in this risk assessment have been discussed with all staff and they have confirmed they understand the reason for the control measures that are required. • A record is maintained by the setting which details all of the specific areas of instruction and training that have been provided for all members of staff. • All staff have confirmed that they are confident in applying the control measures identified in this assessment. 	<p>(Evidence how this has happened in your academy)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Mereside Primary, Parent Apps is used as the main source of communication for parents. • Phone based communication is also carried out daily with parents/carers. • The COVID risk assessment is shared with parents and is available on our school website. • Visitors to school have access to a hard copy of the risk assessment if they would like one.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff have been involved in the practical implementation of this risk assessment (remotely where they are currently not in the setting). Staff have been given the opportunity to discuss and resolve any concerns that they have. Staff have been advised that there is no need for anything other than normal personal hygiene and washing of clothing following a day in school. The setting has ensured that particular attention has been paid to new/inexperienced staff, trainees and those with additional significant role changes. 	
Respectful Space (Social distancing)	<p>Whilst school bubbles and social distancing (keeping 2m from others) is no longer a requirement, any measure that minimises the number, proximity and duration of in person contacts reduces the risk of transmission. Students and staff will be regularly reminded that maintaining social distancing reduces the risk of transmission. Consideration has been given to where respectful space can be maintained between people including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued cohorting of staff as far as is possible Utilisation of online meetings and training Keeping numbers minimised for in person meetings and training Reduction of pinch points and areas of congestion Furniture in areas such as reception, meeting rooms, staff rooms and offices has been rearranged to prevent face to face working and support respectful space where possible minimising unnecessary working activities for staff to be or remain present in the workplace unnecessarily. 	<p><i>(Please refer here to Local actions that are in place)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At Mereside Primary, we continue to remind staff of safe ways of working with COVID in mind.
Hiring academy Premises (and providing premises for club use)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cleaning and disinfection requirements are established for all areas used (premises and equipment) Information about ventilation requirements is provided to the user The academy and user have agreed and confirmed their responsibilities prior to use, The hirer has confirmed that they are following COVID-19 control measures for their activities 	<p><i>(Please reference your procedures here)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At Mereside Primary, the MUGA is used through the FCAT lettings procedures. The Children's Centre is also used from September 2021 by the Revoe Family Hub to facilitate parent, community based activities. Whilst in use, all parties are expected to follow our procedures and processes.
Safeguarding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All academy safeguarding procedures and reporting mechanisms operate in full and in the usual way. Any safeguarding concerns will be reported, recorded, managed and referred to as appropriate, using existing procedures. SLT will ensure that targeted and effective pastoral care is in place to support children designed to meet individual and collective needs. Where working from home is required for the DSL or other safeguarding team member, then regular meetings are in place to ensure safeguarding matters are addressed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At Mereside Primary, all visitors are given a Safeguarding information leaflet on their first visit. The Safeguarding team at Mereside consists of all SLT, plus 2 Teaching staff members who have areas of management responsibility. FCAT Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, and Keeping Children Safe in Education (Sept 2021)
Premises statutory servicing, testing and monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All statutory servicing (weekly/monthly/6 monthly and annual testing and monitoring systems and audits) are in place and continuing in line with current Trust and academy procedures. This includes air conditioning/handling systems. To ensure a schedule of contractors is determined (so that that they can be appropriately briefed in advance of visiting the school and on the day regarding the academy's procedures and good hygiene) for: Gas, Electric, Water, Lifts, Alarm, Fire equipment, PAT testing, Kitchen, Emergency lighting, Doors, Plant equipment, Ventilation. Essential contractors will be allowed on site and will be briefed by site staff as to measures required. 	<p><i>(Please reference further procedures for contractors)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At Mereside Primary, the business manager is responsible for ensuring all statutory testing is carried out and in place with the support of the Site Supervisor. All scheduled servicing and testing is monitored and regularly checked by the Business Manager to ensure compliance.

OUTBREAK MANAGEMENT PLAN (RA)

This outlines how FCAT will operate if additional measures are recommended for our setting or the local area. The Director of Public Health, Public Health England Health Protection Teams or the Local Authority could recommend certain measures be re-introduced. This may happen to help manage outbreaks in schools, or if there is an “extremely high prevalence” of Covid-19 in the community and other measures have failed to reduce transmission, or as part of a package of measures “responding to a variant of concern”. Local authorities, DsPH and HPTs are responsible for managing localised outbreaks. They play an important role in providing support and advice to education and childcare settings.

N.B- THE FOLLOWING CONTROL MEASURES DO NOT NEED TO BE PUT INTO PLACE UNLESS RECOMMENDED BY THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH, PHE HEALTH PROTECTION TEAMS OR THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Area of risk	Control Measures in place	Notes / Further information
<p>If there is significant concern that existing or recently introduced measures in an area have failed to mitigate community transmission, or that a more robust response is required to contain the outbreak of a Variants of Concern (VoC) it may be necessary to limit the number of children and young people in education or childcare settings through attendance restrictions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure remote learning platforms are in place and accessible to all. • That provision is in place for vulnerable children and key worker children to attend (as per national lockdowns). • If attendance restrictions are required across an area, the Government will publish detailed operational guidance for schools. • If restrictions on pupil attendance are needed, FCAT will determine the workforce required onsite and if it is appropriate for some staff to work remotely. 	<p>Attendance restrictions will only be considered as a last resort following the DfE’s ‘contingency framework’ and, in collaboration with public health and the local authority.</p>
<p>Number of positive cases substantially increases 5 children, pupils, students or staff, who are likely to have mixed closely, test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period; or 10% of children, pupils, students or staff who are likely to have mixed closely test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period</p>	<p>Extra action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek public health advice • Whether any activities could take place outdoors, including exercise, assemblies, or classes • Ways to improve ventilation indoors, where this would not significantly impact thermal comfort • More enhanced cleaning focussing on touch points and any shared equipment 	<p>Identifying a group</p> <p>Schools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a form group or subject class • a friendship group mixing at break times • a sports team • a group in an after-school activity <p>Early years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a childminder minding children, including their own • childminders working together on the same site • a nursery class • a friendship group who often play together • staff and children taking part in the same activity session together <p>Office:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central Services • Admin departments
<p>When a variant of COVID-19 is classed as a variant of concern (VoC) Asymptomatic Testing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased use of home testing for staff. • Government guidance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional testing may be recommended to pick up any asymptomatic testing in the school community. • These additional testing measures would need to be agreed with FCAT and the DsPH will need to consult settings and work with them to identify what support may be needed to do this. • FCAT will consider how ATS could be implemented in a way that does not negatively impact the education they provide to their pupils and students.
<p>Temporary reinstate year/class bubbles, for a temporary period to reduce mixing between groups. Self-isolation of close contacts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strict class bubbles re-implemented • Staggered entrance/ exit times will remain in place • Use of multiple entrances and exits will remain in place • Staggered/ limited use of communal areas- hall/ dining 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local arrangements will be re-introduced • Advice sought from Public Health and LA

<p>In some cases, health protection teams may recommend that a number of other pupils self-isolate at home as a precautionary measure. This could be the class or year group.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> room will remain in place 	
<p>Temporary reinstate the use of face coverings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FCAT will introduce the use of face masks in schools for staff and pupils in cases of Variants of Concern including communal areas and classrooms. COVID-19 Risk Assessments will be updated in line with guidance and parents/carers will be informed of the reintroduction of face coverings. Site Managers will ensure that schools have sufficient stock of PPE including facemasks. Academy COVID-19 Risk Assessments will state that all visitors to school sites including parents and contractors are to wear face coverings at all times. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In all cases any educational drawbacks in the recommended use of face coverings will be balanced with the benefits in managing transmission and should allow for reasonable exemptions for their use.
<p>Temporary reinstate shielding in the event of a major outbreak or variant of concern that poses a significant risk to individuals on the shielded patient list.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shielding would be considered in addition to other measures to address the residual risk to people on the SPL, once the wider interventions are considered. Risk Assessments will be updated to include shielding and FCAT will support individuals with remote working if required. Remote learning platform in place for children who are advised to shield. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shielding is currently paused. In the event of a major outbreak or Variant of Concern that poses a significant risk to individuals on the Shielded Patient List (SPL), ministers can agree to reintroduce shielding. Shielding can only be re-introduced by the national government.
<p>Temporary limit to certain school activities;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> educational visits (Including residential) open days transition and taster days parental attendance in settings performances in settings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> These will all be risk assessed and control measures put in place as and when required. FCAT will consider carefully if the school activities listed are still appropriate and safe. Advice will be taken from the director of public health or HPT reflecting the local situation. In FCAT schools where rates are high, this may include advice that local circumstances mean that extra action than set out may be advised. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attendance, restrictions and controls will be reflected in the risk assessments. Local authorities, DsPH and HPTs may recommend these precautions in individual settings or across an entire area.(Blackpool/Lancashire)
<p>Communications to staff, students parents/ carers and visitors</p>	<p>All advised of potential outbreak and mitigating actions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FCAT / Local Authority PHE guidance and other information distributed through local communication and websites
<p>Attendance restrictions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In all circumstances, priority will continue to be given to vulnerable children and young people and children of critical workers to attend to their normal timetables. If attendance needs to be restricted further at either phase, vulnerable children and children of critical workers should still be able to attend. Limits on attendance will only ever be considered as a last resort. As with other periods of restricted attendance, schools within FCAT will provide high quality remote education for all pupils or those not attending. Restrictions on attendance may be advised by local teams for individual settings or clusters of closely linked settings. If restrictions on pupil attendance are needed, FCAT will determine the workforce required onsite and if it is appropriate for some staff to work remotely. There should be no change to local multi-agency safeguarding arrangements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where measures include attendance restrictions, DfE may advise on any other groups that should be prioritised. If attendance restrictions are required across an area, the Government will publish detailed operational guidance for schools. If attendance restrictions are needed in any education or childcare setting, all local safeguarding partners to be vigilant and responsive to all safeguarding threats with the aim of keeping vulnerable children and young people safe, particularly as more children and young people will be learning remotely. In extreme cases, and as a last resort where all other risk mitigations have not broken chains of in-school transmission, a DPH may advise FCAT to introduce short-term attendance restrictions in a setting, such as sending home a class or year group (as they could

		<p>any workplace experiencing a serious infectious disease outbreak).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All FCAT settings will continue to have regard to all statutory safeguarding guidance that applies to them.
<p>Meals / Catering</p>	<p>FCAT will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide meal options for all pupils who are in school. Meals will be available free of charge to all infant pupils and pupils who meet the benefits-related free school meals eligibility criteria. Continue to provide free school meals support in the form of meals or lunch parcels for pupils who are eligible for benefits related to free school meals and who are not attending school because they have had symptoms or a positive test result themselves. 	
<p>Workforce</p>	<p>FCAT will continue to support staff through individual Risk Assessments and support who are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clinically Vulnerable (CV) Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV) Pregnant/Expectant mothers BAME 	<p>Workforce management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If restrictions on child, pupil and student attendance are ever needed, FCAT leaders will be best placed to determine the workforce required onsite and if it is appropriate for some staff to work remotely.