School Covid-19 Risk Assessment & Checklist

School:	Mount Carmel RC High School
Address:	Wordsworth Road, Accrington, Lancashire, BB5 0LU
Completed by:	Mr X Bowers & Mr B Georgy
Date:	3 rd September 2021 & 22 nd October 2021 & 2 nd December 2021
Proposed review date:	31 st January 2022

Amendments to the previous Risk Assessment are highlighted in yellow	
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Potential hazards & guidance on how to control them Reduce the risk of the virus spreading through aerosols	Do you believe the hazard is adequately controlled? Yes or No	Recommended Controls Measures Control measures must be amended to reflect the circumstances of your workplace by removing, adding, or amending content below.
When school is in operation, it is important to ensure it is we ventilated and that a comfortable teaching environment is maintained. Arrangements should balance the need for increased ventilation while maintaining a comfortable temperature. Schools should follow LCC's Simple Steps for Good Ventilat guidance and complete the Ventilation Checklist. Specialist advice and assistance on ventilation measures ca obtained from the Building Services Engineers duty.engineer@lancashire.gov.uk.	ion	 The Ventilation Inspection Checklist has been completed and is attached as an appendix to the "COVID Secure Risk Assessment" (appendix 1). Any required actions as an outcome from the ventilation inspection have been implemented or are being progressed accordingly (see details in action plan section). In accordance with the ventilation checklist school will ensure that appropriate ventilation is available in all occupied spaces. Any areas identified with poor ventilation have been raised with the building services engineer.
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Potential hazards & guidance on how to control them		Do you believe the hazard is adequately controlled? Yes or No	Recommended Controls Measures Control measures must be amended to reflect the circumstances of your workplace by removing, adding, or amending content below.
Reduce the risk of the virus spreading through	social contact		
COVID-19 can still be spread through social conta be mitigated by reducing the number of people sta come into contact with during the day. It is no longer necessary to keep children in consis ('bubbles'). This means that assemblies can resun no longer a need to make alternative arrangement mixing at lunch.	ff and pupils stent groups ne, and there is	Yes	New guidance means that there are no restrictions in place for schools. However, all staff and pupils remain aware of the benefits of social distancing.
Maintain good hygiene throughout the day			
Effective hand washing your hands is one of the eaprotect yourself and others from illnesses such as Washing your hands properly removes dirt, viruses and prevents them spreading to other people and in turn can spread illnesses such as Covid-19. Public Health England provides best practice guida wash your hands.	Covid-19. s and bacteria objects which	Yes	 Staff, pupils and visitors are instructed to wash hands or use hand sanitiser regularly throughout the day particularly when they arrive at school, when they return from breaks, when they change rooms, before and after eating, after using the toilet, after touching shared resources or after touching their face, blowing their nose, sneezing, coughing. Hand washing facilities are readily available. Where hand washing facilities are not readily available, hand sanitiser stations have been positioned to allow pupils and staff to clean their hands regularly.
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		Skin cleaning wipes have been made available for use for pupils with complex needs.
		• Staff have frequent opportunities to wash their hands when providing care to non-symptomatic children who present behaviours which may increase the risk of droplet transmission such as biting, licking, kissing or spitting.
		• Alcohol based hand sanitiser or wipes are not used in lessons or activities involving the use of naked flames e.g. in science labs or food tech classes. In these areas where necessary hands will be washed using soap and running water and dried thoroughly.
		• Pupils are reminded how to catch coughs and sneezes if a tissue is not readily available i.e. in the crook of the elbow rather than in the hands.
		 Posters display good hand washing technique and government guidelines on good respiratory hygiene.
		 Staff supporting others to evacuate are aware of the need to follow hand washing or sanitising instructions.
		• First aiders will pay particular attention to sanitisation measures immediately before and following the administration of first aid.
		• Staff who have assisted someone who has taken unwell with COVID-19 symptoms are aware of the need to follow appropriate handwashing guidelines.
		 Staff handling deliveries will observe good hand hygiene.

Potential hazards & guidance on how to control them	Do you believe the hazard is adequately controlled? Yes or No	Recommended Controls Measures Control measures must be amended to reflect the circumstances of your workplace by removing, adding, or amending content below.
Reduce the risk of the virus spreading through contact with co	ontaminated su	rfaces
COVID-19 can still be spread through touching contaminated surfaces. An appropriate cleaning schedule must be in place and maintained. This should include regular cleaning of areas and	Yes	 An enhanced cleaning schedule is in place. A documented cleaning checklist identifies cleaning requirements and individual responsibilities. Rooms/shared areas are cleaned regularly; at least twice day.
equipment (for example, twice per day), with a particular focus on frequently touched surfaces.	s on	• Repeatedly touched objects such as railings/bannisters, door and window handles, taps, desk/tabletops, computer equipment, MFDs, telephones and toilet facilities are frequently cleaned.
Where cleaning is required after a known or suspected case of COVID-19, refer to the guidance on cleaning in non-healthcare settings.		• Classroom based resources that are shared such as books, play equipment, toys, sports equipment, outdoor play equipment, art and science equipment are cleaned regularly.
Provide extra non recycling bins for the disposal of single use face coverings and PPE.		Where equipment/machinery cannot be washed down regularly alternative protective measures have been designed.
Refer to the guidance on how to dispose of personal or business waste including face coverings and PPE.		• Where non-symptomatic children present behaviours which may increase the risk of droplet transmission such as biting, licking, kissing or spitting there will be increased vigilance of cleaning of frequently touched surfaces.
		 Staff and pupils are encouraged to have their pens and pencils to avoid the need to share items that cannot be easily cleaned.
		 Unnecessary sharing including the sharing of items that do not contribute to a pupil's education or development is discouraged.
		• Staff have been instructed on cleaning and sanitising requirements including the use of chemicals and cleaning materials and instructions on the use of PPE.
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Potential hazards & guidance on how to control them	Do you believe the hazard is adequately controlled? Yes or No	Recommended Controls Measures Control measures must be amended to reflect the circumstances of your workplace by removing, adding, or amending content below.
		• Waste cleaning materials are disposed of in the usual way unless it is confirmed or suspected that they are contaminated as a result of a member of staff or pupil displaying symptoms. School follows the procedures set out in the Government guidance Cleaning in Non-Health Care Settings following a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19 on site.
		• Contaminated or suspected contaminated waste is double bagged, labelled and stored for 72 hours before being disposed of with general waste.
		• Where it is not possible to store waste for 72 hours, arrangements will be made for collection by the school's specialist clinical waste contractor.
Personal protective equipment & face coverings	<u>I</u>	
Face coverings should be worn in communal areas in all settings by staff, visitors and pupils or students in year 7 and above, unless they are exempt.	Yes	• Staff who are already using PPE to protect against non-COVID- 19 risks, will continue to do so. Use of PPE has been determined by an assessment of risks in the workplace.
Pupils or students (in year 7 or above) should continue to wear face coverings on public and dedicated school transport, unless they are exempt.		 Staff, visitors and pupils in year 7 and above are required to wear face coverings in communal areas and dedicated transport to school.
Most staff in schools will not require PPE beyond what they would normally need for their work. The guidance on the use of PPE in education, childcare and children's social care		• First Aiders have read and follow the Government guidance for first responders and the HSE Guidance on First Aid during the coronavirus pandemic.
settings provides more information on the use of PPE for COVID- 19.		When caring for someone with COVID-19 symptoms a face mask should be worn if social distancing cannot be maintained and if

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 Additional PPE for COVID-19 is only required in a number of scenarios: if an individual child, young person or student b COVID-19 symptoms and only then if close cornecessary when performing aerosol generating procedure Non-symptomatic children who present behaviours increase the risk of droplet transmission such as b kissing or spitting or who require care that cannot without close hands-on contact, should continue to in the same way as before COVID-19, including ar routine use of PPE. No additional PPE should be necessary because s with non-symptomatic children in a non-healthcare therefore the risk of viral transmission is very low. Delivering First Aid to pupils Children and young people who require first aid sh to receive care in the same way. No additional PP because of COVID-19 for anyone who does not have a first Aiders should familiarise themselves with the guidance for first responders and the HSE Guidan during the coronavirus pandemic. The safe removal of PPE is a critical consideration 	ecomes ill with htact is s (AGPs) s which may iting, licking, be provided o receive care hy existing staff are dealing e setting, nould continue E is needed ave symptoms. Government ce on First Aid	 contact is necessary, gloves, an apron and a face mask should be worn. Additional PPE is made available in First Aid boxes and alongside Defibrillators. Disposable gloves, an impermeable apron and a fluid resistant surgical face mask are to be worn when delivering hands on first aid to adults where close contact cannot be avoided. If a risk assessment indicates the likelihood of contamination by splashes, droplets of blood or body fluids, disposable eye protection (such as a face visor or goggles) will be worn. Staff are aware of the need to report insufficient levels of PPE to their line manager. Disposable gloves and impermeable aprons must be worn when cleaning areas that have been occupied by someone displaying COVID-19 symptoms. Staff are aware of the arrangements for the safe use and disposal of PPE including face masks/face coverings.
contamination. Staff should familiarise themselves Issue: 7 Issued by: H&S Team		School Covid-19 Risk Assessment & Checklist Page 6 of 14

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Government guidance on the use of personal protective equipment. Disposal of PPE Disposal of used PPE and other waste should be in line with cleaning non-healthcare settings outside the home. Settings such as special schools that generate clinical waste should continue to follow their usual waste policies.		
Protecting people at higher risk of infection		
 There are some groups who are at higher risk of severe illness from coronavirus. See guidance on who is at higher risk and protecting people who are clinically extremely vulnerable. On-site provision should in all cases be retained for vulnerable children and young people and the children of critical workers. If settings must temporarily stop on-site provision on public health advice, they should discuss alternative arrangements for vulnerable children and young people with the Lancashire County Council. Further information is available in the guidance on supporting pupils at school with medical conditions. Extra consideration needs to be given to workers facing mental and physical health difficulties. Those who are clinically extremely vulnerable are no longer advised to shield but must continue to 	Yes	 The school works closely with parents of children who are extremely vulnerable to support a return to school, carrying out an individual risk assessment as necessary. An individual risk assessment has been completed for any staff member who is in a vulnerable category, significant risk factors or who is experiencing mental health issues due to COVID-19. A new & expectant mother risk assessment and individual Covid-19 risk assessment has been completed for all pregnant staff.

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be supported by discussing with them their individual needs and supporting them in taking any additional precautions advised by their clinicians. Please refer to Government Guidance, Coronavirus (COVID-19):		
advice for pregnant employees.		
Reduce the spread of COVID-19 by ensuring people isolate with	nen they are lega	ally required to do so
 Close contacts will be identified via NHS Test and Trace and education settings will no longer be expected to undertake contact tracing. Managers and employees should refer to the government guidance NHS Test and Trace in the workplace. An individual is legally required to self-isolate if they have tested positive for COVID-19 have COVID-19 symptoms live in a household with someone who has symptoms, unless they're exempt from self-isolation have been told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace Close contacts without symptoms are exempt from self-isolation if; they are fully vaccinated aged under 18 and 6 months they are taking part in a vaccine trial are not vaccinated for medical reasons 	Yes	 School will follow the guidance in the latest PHE (Lancashire) Schools Resource Pack which provides advice on managing positive cases and who to contact for help. Staff and pupils are required to stay at home if they have COVID-19 symptoms and to seek a confirmation PCR test. If anyone in school develops COVID-19 symptoms, however mild, they will be sent home and advised to take a PCR test. Any staff displaying symptoms will be mindful not to come into contact with other staff. Any rooms they have used will be cleaned after they have left. If a pupil is awaiting collection, they will be left in a room on their own if possible and safe to do so. A window will be opened for fresh air ventilation. Appropriate PPE will be used if close contact is necessary. Any rooms they have used will be cleaned after they have left. Staff and pupils identified as a close contact by NHS Test & Trace will be required to take a PCR test but will not be required to self- isolate whilst awaiting the results.
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Potential hazards & guidance on how to control them	Do you believe the hazard is adequately controlled? Yes or No	Recommended Controls Measures Control measures must be amended to reflect the circumstances of your workplace by removing, adding, or amending content below.
Any suspected or confirmed close contacts of the Omicron variant will be required to isolate for 10 days regardless of vaccination status or age. You will be contacted directly by NHS		 Staff and pupils with a positive PCR test result will be required to self-isolate for 10 days and will be supported to do so.
Test & Trace and told to isolate. Refer to the latest government guidance Stay at home: guidance		 Staff and pupils who are a suspected or confirmed close contacts of the Omicron variant will be supported to self-isolate for 10 days regardless or vaccination status or age.
for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (Covid-19) infection for further information.		• Customers, visitors and contractors are instructed not to attend site if they are displaying symptoms.
Asymptomatic testing		·
Testing remains important in reducing the risk of transmission of infection within schools. That is why, whilst some measures are relaxed, others will remain. As pupils will potentially mix with lots of other people during the summer holidays, all secondary school pupils should receive 2 on-site lateral flow device tests, 3 to 5 days apart, on their return in the autumn term. Staff and High School pupils should undertake twice weekly home tests whenever they are on site until the end of September, when this will also be reviewed. Secondary schools should also retain a small asymptomatic testing site (ATS) on-site until further notice so they can offer testing to pupils who are unable to test themselves at home. Additional information on PCR test kits for schools and further education providers is available.	Yes	 Staff and High School pupils are required to undertake twice weekly home LFD tests. Pupils have undertaken 2 on-site LFD tests on their return to school in September. Staff and pupils who have a positive LFD test are required to self-isolate and to seek a confirmation PCR test. The school has a small asymptomatic testing site (ATS) on-site for pupils who are unable to test themselves at home. A separate risk assessment is in place for the LFD on-site testing programme and home testing programme.

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The government sharing platform provides information guidance for schools on testing arrangements.	on and		
Reduce the risk of transmission through vaccina	ation		
Vaccines are the best defence against COVID-19. They help protect young people and adults, and benefit those around them. Vaccination makes people less likely to catch the virus and less likely to pass it on.			 All eligible staff and students aged 12 and over are encouraged to take up the offer of the vaccine, including boosters.
To book a vaccination, please visit: <u>Book or manage</u> coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination – NHS (www.n			
Reduce the risk for visitors and contractors			
Provide clear guidance on how to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 to people when they arrive.		Yes	• Site guidance on social distancing and hygiene will be explained to visitors, parents/carers and contractors on or before arrival. Site rules are prominently displayed at all access points, including sanitising, handwashing, social distancing, not entering if symptomatic etc.
Reduce the spread of COVID-19 during Education	onal Visits		
The travel list (and broader international travel policy) is subject to change and green list countries may be moved into amber or red. The travel lists may change during a visit and you must comply with international travel legislation and should have contingency plans in place to account for these changes.		Yes	 International travel legislation will be complied with and contingency plans put in place to take into account the possible short notice changes to travel policy and restrictions. A full and thorough risk assessment will be completed taking account of any public health advice, such as hygiene and ventilation
			requirements. The risk assessment will be approved depending on
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You should undertake full and thorough risk assessmerelation to all educational visits and ensure that any padvice, such as hygiene and ventilation requirements as part of that risk assessment. Risk assessments should consider contingency arran a number of possibilities including a participant develor COVID-19 symptoms during the visit or a member of to self-isolate and being unable to attend. General guidance about educational visits is available supported by specialist advice from the Outdoor Educ Advisory Panel (OEAP). Keep pupils and staff safe when travelling	ublic health , is included gements for oping staff having e and is	 the visit type, either by the school or LCCs Educational Visits Team via Evolve prior to the visit taking place. Risk assessments will consider contingency arrangements for a number of possibilities including staff having to self-isolate or participants developing COVID symptoms whilst on the visit. The school will liaise with the venue/activity provider as part of the risk assessment process to ensure it has made its own assessment of the risk of COVID-19 and implemented suitable controls measures to prevent infection. Preliminary visits to the venue will be carried out if deemed necessary to check measures are place. 	
Pupils (in year 7 or above) should wear face covering and dedicated school transport, unless they are exem Up to date guidance on COVID-19 and school travel i from the School Transport team.	npt. Yes	 The control measures for dedicated transport have been aligned as far as possible with the principles underpinning the system of controls set out in school including ventilation, cleaning and hygiene. When travelling on public or dedicated transport pupils, staff and parents are required to wear a face covering. 	
Managing a COVID-19 outbreak in school			
Please refer to PHE North West Schools Resource P advice on managing COVID-19 cases and outbreaks For support on outbreak management please contact COVID19-HealthProtection@lancashire.gov.uk	Yes	 An outbreak management plan (appendix 2) is in place outlining how the school will operate if there is an outbreak in the school or local area. Support is obtained as required from relevant teams including Lancashire Public Health Education Outbreak Management team. 	
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Potential hazards & guidance on how to control them	Do you believe the hazard is adequately controlled? Yes or No	Recommended Controls Measures Control measures must be amended to reflect the circumstances of your workplace by removing, adding, or amending content below.	
 School should have contingency plans outlining what act take if pupils or staff test positive for COVID-19, or how s would operate if advised to take extra measures to help chains of transmission. Guidance on what to include in contingency framework a information on what circumstances might lead to addition action, and the steps to work through, are contained the government guidance Contingency framework: education childcare settings August 2021. Communication, consultation and training Employers have a legal duty to consult workers on health safety matters. To help workers feel safe returning to work employers shoen put in place to reduce the risk of COVID-19 spread Schools continue to engage with staff (including through unions and employee representative groups) to monitor understand any unforeseen impacts of changes to worki environments. 	school break and hal n and h and Yes hould at have ing. trade and	 School continues to record COVID-19 related absence in accordance with the information contained within the PHE North West Schools Resource Pack. In the event of an outbreak any staff required to work from home will be supported to do so including ensuring they have suitable equipment, developing appropriate communication channels and looking after their physical and mental wellbeing. A homeworking checklist and risk assessment has been completed for any staff working from home for a prolonged period which is reviewed on a 3-monthly basis. Clear and up to date information and guidance on how to manage the risks associated with Covid-19 is available via the schools portal and Government website. Staff are consulted when considering local arrangements. Signage, posters and other instructions use simple, clear messaging to explain guidelines using images and clear language, with consideration of groups for which English may not be their first language. 	
Stress & Anxiety			
Mental health is important, especially during times of und The government has published guidance on the mental I and wellbeing aspects of coronavirus (COVID-19).		• The Headteacher and other senior staff monitor working arrangements and offer support and advice where necessary.	
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The Department for Education is providing additional support for both pupil and staff wellbeing in the current situation. Information about the extra mental health support for pupils and teachers is available. The Education Support Partnership provides a free helpline for school staff and targeted support for mental health and wellbeing.		 A procedure is available for individuals to report concerns over breaches of school safe working policy/guidelines so that intervention can occur. A risk assessment addressing COVID-19 concerns for an employee has been completed for any member of staff raising concerns about their safety or well-being and appropriate control measures identified and implemented. Staff are made aware of sources of information via the school portal that will assist their wellbeing such as: Employee Wellbeing MIND web site H&S COVID-19 web page

ACTION PLAN - Further action / controls required

Hazard	Action required	Person(s) to undertake action?	Priority	Projected time scale	Notes / comments	Date completed

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