

## **A summary of the key changes to the St. Nicholas School COVID-19 Risk Assessment (26/02/2021)**

*The National Lockdown restrictions will begin to be released according to the UK Governments Road Map/Spring Plan (February 2021). Should the four tests be met then the schools will fully re-open on Monday 8 March, with all pupils (and not just the children of critical workers or the most vulnerable) returning to full-time schooling. The exceptions to this will be students (and staff) who are on the shielding list due to being clinically extremely vulnerable.*

1. The classes will operate in class bubbles with pupils not mixing across groups. There will be a timetable for access to the playground (Muga or play equipment) for the separate bubbles across the day to ensure that groups – between the key stage phases – do not mix. All groups in school are advised to go off-site for a walk/"daily mile". There will be very restricted movement between bubbles up until the end of term (this situation will be reviewed after Easter). Individual classes will be able access the Sports hall and Dining Hall for class-specific PE lessons. The dining hall will not be used for classes to eat their lunch-time meal until after the Easter holiday at the earliest.
2. Only essential visitors are allowed to come into school due to the risk of transmission (if their work cannot be done remotely. There will only be limited access for NHS therapy staff, all other monitoring visits/meeting contributions will be made via digital sources. Members of the creative therapies team can move between sites as their 1:1 work is essential for the pupils' well-being.
3. The school dining hall will not be in use for meals for the foreseeable future. (This decision will be reviewed before the end of term 4.) All pupils will eat their lunch within class and staff will eat with the pupils, in their office spaces or in the staff room whilst observing social distancing.
4. Staff and secondary students (who are not exempt) *must* wear a face covering in all communal areas. Primary pupils also have the opportunity to wear a face covering too. For effective use, the safe management guidelines should be followed

Staff are prompted to wear a face covering (all day) during teaching sessions. The use of staff face coverings should not cause a disruption or distraction to the safe management of classes. Parents/carers may also want their children (who are not exempt) and/or the pupils (themselves) may choose to wear a face covering inside class if this makes them feel safer - this will not be enforced by staff though.

*All people that have worn a face mask in class for a period of 60 minutes should be given the opportunity for a short (5 minute) break outdoors where the mask will be removed, so that they can have a clean air break. **This does not apply to those people wearing a visor as the mouth and nose are not being enclosed for long period of time and free air flow can be transferred at all times.***

5. There will be no movement between sites for peripatetic (subject-specialist) teachers or curriculum support assistants until the school practices are reviewed after Easter. Teaching staff are recommended to take their PPA off-site at home to reduce the number of adults in the school buildings. Creative therapies staff will begin face to face sessions with pupils with an additional set of mitigations from 3/03/2021.

6. The timetable for the hydrotherapy pool has been revised to allow increased deep cleaning between uses and class-specific use. The specialist rooms will be locked and taken out of use. The library areas will only be used for the exchange of books. Any use of shared spaces/specialist rooms that are needed (for use as emergency breakout spaces) will need to be cleaned by the class staff.
7. Forest School activities can still take place but with only one class-bubble group having access to each space. The Forest School Leaders will make their way to the site separately from their groups and will lead the activities/providing coaching support from a distance – with support staff providing the physical support and prompting.
8. There will be no face to face training in-school, or CPL from external (visiting) trainers - all will be remote. Only Physical Intervention training for new staff will take place in F2F session and due to the risks posed by the lack of social distancing/hand to body 'touch' which is required by the learning, special protection will be used (face masks and gloves) and extended hand hygiene regimes will be observed. After Easter a limited programme of CPL opportunities will begin, due to the school's priorities and in-line with National Road Map.
9. A lateral-flow coronavirus testing regime was introduced on 6/1/21 in the school dining hall. From Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March, this will be scaled down and re-located to the school gym. This will also be the base of the home-testing programme.  
*Should a person test positive during the in-school test centre they will need to self-isolate (WITHOUT THE NEED TO GET A PCR TEST). If someone tests positive in a home testing kit they will need to register it and will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace and MAY need to book a full PCR test.*
10. The rules and guidance around Aerosol Generating Particles (AGP) now only apply to pupils with a tracheostomy (the application of guidance for suctioning has been removed).