

# St Nicholas School Canterbury

## Risk Assessment for re-opening the School following the easing of Lockdown procedures – Return to normal Schooling Action Plan September 2020 (all campuses) – Updated February 2021

Name of Site(s): St Nicholas School, 6<sup>th</sup> Form provision, Caterpillar Class Specialist Intervention Nursery (Parkside), Canterbury Primary/Secondary Schools, Spires Academy, St John's and Chartham Primary Satellites.

Description: This risk assessment details the monitoring/strategies required for the above sites to help ensure the care and safety of school staff, pupils and equipment assets of St. Nicholas school.

This risk assessment is to aid the school community plan for as close a return to full staffing and pupil/class groupings (from 3 September 2020) as possible. The national & local coronavirus data, government guidance and a holistic school-based health & safety review are all be taken into consideration in the design of our policies, practices and protocols which form this plan.

These guidelines should be followed by staff to minimise risk:

***This risk assessment has been put in place to comply with all the previous the government guidance described within and the policy and practice advice included within the St Nicholas School COVID-19 Expansion plan. In line with:***

- [The Government Guidance for full opening: schools and other specialist settings](#) 17/09/2020 and [Working safely during the Coronavirus](#) 10/07/2020
- [The HSE guidance on Making the workplace COVID secure, Guidance for Childcare and Educational Settings in the Management of COVID-19](#) (11/08/2020)
- [Safe working in education, childcare and children's social care: Preventing and controlling infection, including the use of PPE, in education, childcare and children's social care settings during the coronavirus outbreak](#), DFE 02/03/2021
- [What to do if a child is displaying symptoms of Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) DFE (17/09/2020)
- [COVID-19 Early Outbreak Management](#) (25/08/2020)
- [Guidance for full opening: schools](#) (25/08/20)
- [Letter from Vicky Ford](#) DFE 2/09/2020
- [How schools can plan for tier 2 local restrictions](#) (28/02/2020)
- [Working safely during the coronavirus](#) (10/07/2020)
- [Education and childcare settings: New National Restrictions from 5 November 2020](#) DFE (4/11/20)
- [Face Coverings: when to wear one, exemptions, and how to make your own](#) DFE (4/11/2020)
- [Guidance on shielding and protecting people who are clinically extremely vulnerable from COVID-19](#) DHSC/PHE (7/01/2021)
- [Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#) PHE (5/11/2020)
- [Guidance for contacts of people with confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection who do not live with the person](#) PHE (30/10/20)
- [NHS Test and Trace in the workplace: Guidance on NHS Test and Trace for employers, businesses and workers](#) DFE 5/11/2020
- [Guidance on shielding and protecting people who are clinically extremely vulnerable from COVID-19](#) DHSC/PHE 26/02/2021
- [COVID-19 Winter Plan](#) Cabinet Office 23/11/20
- [Local Restriction Tiers: What you need to know](#) DHSC 23/11/20

## St Nicholas School Canterbury

- [Children of critical workers and vulnerable children who can access schools or educational settings](#) Cabinet Office & DFE 5/01/2021
- [Restricting attendance during the national lockdown: schools – Guidance for all schools in England](#) DFE (January 2021)
- [COVID-19 National Testing Programme: School and Colleges handbook](#) NHS Test and Trace (15/12/20)
- [National Lockdown: Stay at home](#) Cabinet Office (6/01/2021)
- [Providing remote education information to parents: template](#) DFE (15/12/20)
- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) asymptomatic testing in schools and colleges](#) 15/12/2020
- [Additional operational guidance for special schools, special post-16 institutions and alternative provision](#) (DFE, February 2021)
- [Rapid asymptomatic testing in specialist settings](#) (DFE 22/02/2021)
- [Schools coronavirus \(COVID-19\) operational guidance](#) (DFE, February 2021)
- [Scientific evidence supporting the government response to coronavirus \(COVID-19\) \(22/2/2021\)](#)
- [COVID-19 Response – Spring 2021 HM Government](#) (February 2021)
- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) catch-up premium: allocations](#) (ESFA 22/2/21)
- [Scientific evidence supporting the government response to Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) \(SAGE, 22/02/2021\)](#)
- [Annex A: health and safety risk assessment](#) (DFE, 22/02/2021)
- [Face coverings in education](#) (DFE March 2021)
- [Contingency framework: education and childcare settings](#) (DFE, 22/02/2021)
- [the letter from the KCC Corporate Director: Children, Young People and Education](#) KCC (17/09/2020)

**we have produced the following risk assessment and action plan based upon the 5 key areas of focus:**

- **Public health advice to minimise coronavirus (COVID-19) risks**
- **School operations**
- **Curriculum, behaviour and pastoral support**
- **Assessment and Accountability**
- **Contingency planning for (suspected) outbreaks.**

*The protocols held within this document apply to all S. Nicholas School staff, pupils, governors, parents/carers and associate transport staff or essential visitors/agents during the national COVID-19 (phased) lockdown period.*

### **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.*

- 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.
- 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.

## St Nicholas School Canterbury

- 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.
- 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.***

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- A lateral-flow coronavirus testing regime was introduced on 6/01/2021 in the school dining hall. From Thursday 4 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.*

- 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).

### KEY AREA OF FOCUS

- **Public health advice to minimise coronavirus (COVID-19) risks**

### Effective infection protection and control

- RISK – Despite schools being judged (by the government and Public Health England) as relatively safe for the transmission of Coronavirus, the highest potential direct

## St Nicholas School Canterbury

transmission risks of Covid-19 will be from coughs and/or sneezes or from direct touch or indirect transmission e.g. from touching contaminated surfaces.

- MITIGATION – the UK government state that in our school “there should be a system of protective measures including:
  - *There is a requirement that people who are ill should stay at home*
  - *Robust hand and respiratory hygiene*
  - *Enhanced cleaning arrangements*
  - *Active engagement with NHS Test and Trace*
  - *A formal consideration of how to reduce contacts and maximise distancing between those in school and wherever possible minimise potential for contamination so far as reasonably practicable.”*

The school will plan to group children together in “class bubbles”, avoid contact between groups, arrange for (some) classrooms to have forward facing desks and promote the maintenance of 1+/2m social distancing between staff and students, with the additional mitigation of increased ventilation.

- 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.

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.***

- *The requirement that people who are ill should stay at home:* in order for St Nicholas School to observe the practices and protocols within this risk assessment and action plan we need all pupils who are ill – in any way – to remain at home. There will be increased staff vigilance towards adult and child health – supported by all staff and families, i.e. anyone with any symptoms of illness including cold/flu or gastro-intestinal is to remain at (or be sent) home. NB: coming into contact with vomit or a sneeze may cause Covid-19 transmission (in a potentially asymptomatic person). The “48hr rule” (with return to school after 48hrs following the last episode of illness) must be strictly observed.

*Our ability to respond to issues caused by staff absence due to illness is severely limited. In the event of low staffing within a class bubble - due to general illness - we may be forced to close the bubble temporarily (potentially in full or in part [on a rotated basis]) until safe staffing levels return. The Senior Leadership Team will make a dynamic risk assessment about the safety and viability of classes to operate, as required.*

- *Robust hand and respiratory hygiene:* there will be additional tissues available to all students and staff (to be disposed of in the COVID-secure dustbin). Any incidences of sneezing must be into a tissue, in the first instance, or the crook of the elbow. There will be additional PSHE teaching and posters promoting good respiratory hygiene. There will be additional handwashing regimes during the school day for all staff and students at all parts of the day;

## St Nicholas School Canterbury

- *Enhanced cleaning arrangements:* A member of the cleaning staff will be employed to be present all day so that surfaces are not only cleaned before and after school, but also during the day. There will be increased surface/door, toilet, handle and key lock/sink and tap cleaning regimes both mid-morning and after lunch – where a satellite class may not have additional cleaning during the day, these cleaning responsibilities will be undertaken by class staff on a rota. We will be only providing access to hard resources/toys that can be easily sanitised after use and/or at the end of the day; shared computer keyboards/screens will be sanitised by a cleansing wipe after use and/or at the end of the school day. Pupils, where possible and practicable, will be provided with their own (daily) or group (sessional) resources to reduce the need for cleaning. A small, manageable number of (hard) toys and resources (e.g. cars, lego, parachute, learning materials) will be used with pupils to simplify the cleaning process at the end of a session. Soft or fabric materials/toys will be removed from classroom areas, as these items cannot be easily disinfected. Furniture (including tables and chairs) will be cleaned by class staff at the end of the day/session. Staff should consider removing their work clothing as soon as they get home, washing the clothes and then showering before starting their home activity. All cleaning agents used have the appropriate Control of Substances potentially Hazardous to Health (COSHH) information sheets – they are stored safely (out of reach or, preferably, locked away) to avoid the risk of potential ingestion by the pupils. (Any cleaning products will be used following a staff training session with trained site management staff about their assessed risks and safe use).
- *Active engagement with NHS Test and Trace:* If anyone develops symptoms of COVID-19 – high temperature of **37.8° or above**, persistent new cough, and/or the recent loss of sense of smell or taste (anosmia) – the office is to be contacted immediately and they are to be isolated on-site and then be sent home to self-isolate for 7+ days (to see if the other symptoms develop or the illness persists) and should seek a test using the web link below or ring **119**. Only the pupil or staff member concerned will now go home to self-isolate and wait for the results of their test – all other members of the class bubble will be informed, so that they can make a decision about attending school (based up their assessment of their own individual vulnerabilities). If the test is positive the individual concerned will need to stay at home until they are well (or for the remainder of their **10** day self-isolation period, whichever is longest) and those who have come into close contact with them (following the advice of the Kent Health Protection Team (KHPT)/DFE – e.g. being more **or** less than 2m for 15 minutes or more) will need to self-isolate for the full 14 day period – they will need to seek a coronavirus test/follow the above protocols, if they also begin to experience symptoms (triggering their own families and close contacts<sup>1</sup> to also begin self-isolation periods).

---

<sup>1</sup> A close contact is a person who has been “close to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 anytime from 2 days before the person was symptomatic up to 10 days from onset of symptoms (this is when they are infectious to others). For example, a contact can be:

- people who spend significant time in the same household as a person who has tested positive for COVID-19
- sexual partners
- **a person who has had face-to-face contact (within one metre), with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, including:**
  - being coughed on
  - having a face-to-face conversation within one metre
  - having skin-to-skin physical contact, or
  - **contact within one metre for one minute or longer without face-to-face contact**
- **a person who has been within 2 metres of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 for more than 15 minutes**
- a person who has travelled in a small vehicle with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or in a large vehicle or plane near someone who has tested positive for COVID-19”

## St Nicholas School Canterbury

Following a positive COVID-19 test of a person who has attended school (Stephen King will be the port of call on 07758 746522), swift action will be taken and the DFE will be contacted on their headline on 08000 468687 and all advice provided will be taken, at all stages of the outbreak.

A coronavirus test can be booked at the following websites:

**For parents and carers - <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>**

**For school staff - <https://www.gov.uk/apply-coronavirus-test-essential-workers>**

**Coronavirus information can be gained from the following websites:**

**<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>** or

(NHS111 Online - <https://111.nhs.uk/>) or telephone - **119**.

**All staff/parents booking tests or contacted by the NHS Test and Trace Service MUST state that they work/learn within a special school at the first available opportunity. As a school, the SLT have extended this guidance to all pupils and transport staff too during to the transmission risks and vulnerabilities of the pupils. St Nicholas School has received 10 home test kits which will only be offered to families that have significant barriers to accessing testing elsewhere. The people concerned taken through the instructions for use and advised which Royal Mail Priority Letter box to use to post the sample off, for analysis.**

If the test is positive that person-concerned must isolate for a minimum of **10 days** or until they are symptom free (whichever is longest). All other members of the "class bubble" who have been potentially exposed MUST self-isolate for **14 days**. The school will contact the DFE, KCC and our local Health Protection Team to draw up a rapid risk assessment to identify next steps. If there are two or more positive tests within a "bubble"/class/group the KHPT advice for early outbreak management will be followed. **Where bubbles are closed due to self-isolation or staffing levels a programme of home education will be initiated at the earliest possible level. Should a test not be available for a symptomatic individual, or be refused, they must remain at home for the full 10 days of the self-isolation period, before they can return to school – with the remainder of the household monitoring themselves for symptoms, also.** If someone who is self-isolating because they have been in close contact<sup>2</sup>

- 
- *The staff and students in our school is considered a high priority workplace for the KHPT (on 03442253861 or Out Of Hours 08449670085) and the NHS due to the vulnerabilities of our client group, PHE (30/10/20).*

<sup>2</sup> A close contact is a person who has been "close to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 anytime from 2 days before the person was symptomatic up to 10 days from onset of symptoms (this is when they are infectious to others). For example, a contact can be:

- people who spend significant time in the same household as a person who has tested positive for COVID-19
- sexual partners
- **a person who has had face-to-face contact (within one metre), with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, including:**
  - being coughed on
  - having a face-to-face conversation within one metre
  - having skin-to-skin physical contact, or
  - **contact within one metre for one minute or longer without face-to-face contact**
- **a person who has been within 2 metres of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 for more than 15 minutes**
- a person who has travelled in a small vehicle with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or in a large vehicle or plane near someone who has tested positive for COVID-19"
- *The staff and students in our school is considered a high priority workplace for the KHPT (on 03442253861 or Out Of Hours 08449670085) and the NHS due to the vulnerabilities of our client group, PHE (30/10/20).*

## St Nicholas School Canterbury

with someone who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) starts to feel unwell and gets a test for coronavirus themselves, and **the test delivers a negative result, they must remain in isolation for the remainder of the 14-day isolation period.** This is because they could still develop coronavirus (COVID-19) within the remaining days.

The following message was sent out to parents "If your child has attended school & becomes ill outside of school; let the school know IMMEDIATELY with details of symptoms AND temperature reading." Parents will be made aware that a temperature of 37.8° or above is within the range of COVID-19 symptoms so a test must be sought. This measure will be applied to staff who have attended school also so that the bubble groups can remain protected.

**Should Covid-19 testing or a vaccine become freely available to school staff, antigen and/or antibody, we would support our staff to do so – as often as they individually feel appropriate. The school will also aim to reimburse (where appropriate) all staff who are able to secure flu vaccine for all staff, as soon as possible. We will try to support all staff to engage with all elements of the COVID-19 Spring Plan – through enabling (where possible) access to rapid/community testing programmes or receive any Coronavirus vaccines, as and when they become available. We recommend that all members of our school community follow the appropriate National Lockdown measures that are in place.**

- *Formal consideration of how to reduce contacts and maximise distancing between those in school or college and wherever possible minimise potential contamination so far as is reasonably practicable:* the school will try as far as is possible to reduce the risks of pupils mixing together by - the staggering of arrival and departure times, break and lunchtimes, mealtimes; the maintenance of consistent class/group bubbles; the suspension of large assemblies and limiting access to shared areas – from the start of term 4 until the lockdown procedures are eased sufficiently again. Should there be low staffing in a bubble the school will try to mitigate against it by either a full/partial (rotated) bubble closure or the temporary sharing of staff (prompted to wear a face covering) and/or the temporary movement of pupils into other bubbles – these two options are the least favourable however due to the risk of transmission, but following a dynamic risk assessment may be unavoidable and become the safest option(s).

### **The St Nicholas School Canterbury 'System of controls (protective measures)':**

#### **Prevention**

- Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or have someone in their household does, do not attend the setting
- Clean hands thoroughly more often than usual
- Ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'Catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
- Introduce enhanced cleaning, including frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents and disinfectants.
- Face coverings must be used in communal areas by all staff and we would prefer all staff to wear a face covering in class (during the day) whenever it is considered safe, practicable and effective to do so by those involved. The wearing of face coverings in communal areas and/or classes also applies to any (secondary) students - who are not exempt – if they choose to wear them, if it will make them feel safer, but safe management cannot be assured nor will be enforced by staff. - **ALL OF THESE MUST BE IN PLACE, IN ALL SITES, ALL THE TIME**
- Minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible – with class bubbles being kept separated indoors and only mixing outside at breaktimes and/or on transport - **PROPERLY CONSIDERED AND MEASURES ARE SITE SPECIFIC**
- Where necessary, wear appropriate PPE - **APPLIES IN SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES**

#### **Response to any infection**

## St Nicholas School Canterbury

- Engage with the NHS Test and Trace process
- Manage confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) amongst the setting's community
- Contain any outbreak by following local health protection team advice
- *MUST BE FOLLOWED IN EACH RELEVANT CASE*

### DETAILED PLANS: PREVENTION -

- **Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or have someone in their household does, do not attend the setting:** If a staff member becomes symptomatic they should go home immediately and organise a COVID-19 test. If a pupil becomes symptomatic whilst at school, they will be isolated, supervised by staff in full PPE until they can be collected from the premises in a timely manner - the other members of the bubble will be informed so those concerned can make a judgement as to the(ir) vulnerability. Where a staff member or pupil becomes symptomatic around lunchtime, the 'bubble' will contact the school kitchen and catering staff will deliver meals to them, if appropriate, to minimise contact with people potentially exposed. ***If the test proves to be positive the individual concerned will need to isolate for a minimum of 10 days (or until they are well again – whichever is longer, the members of their household must self-isolate for 14 days) and ALL other bubble members (staff and students) and peers and the staff who transported them in (if appropriate) will need to self-isolate within their homes for the full 14 day period (in case symptoms become apparent later in the this time period). THIS WILL HAVE AN UNAVOIDABLE IMPACT ON OUR STAFF/STUDENT ABSENCE AND ATTENDANCE LEVELS.***

If a pupil or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, the school will share information of individual's department, area/group and the date of the test with the school community on the school website.

*All staff, students and essential visitors will be given temperature check during the day by the School Nurse (or their school leader, if in an off-site provision). The isolation rooms will be as follows – Main site (Medical Room), 6<sup>th</sup> Form/CAS (Hygiene area), Spires (Medical room outside classroom), CPS - hygiene area, Chartham (Head or Deputy's office). St John's arrangements will be clarified ASAP.*

If a child becomes unwell out of school hours (e.g. during the weekend or in the evenings) they are to remain at home and observe the 48 hour rule (with return to school after 48 hrs following the last episode of illness) and/or return to school only when they are well again, whichever is longer. A message should be left of the school phone answerphone to inform the school, at the first opportunity. If a staff member becomes unwell they will decide whether their symptoms can be managed in school, so that their duties can be safely carried out. NB: If a child or staff member begins to experience symptoms of coronavirus out of school hours (high temperature – 37.8° or above, new and continuous cough and/or the loss of sense of taste or smell) they must inform the school immediately with their symptoms and their start date (so that we can inform those they have come into contact with to start self-isolating) and seek a coronavirus test – they must inform the school of the results, as soon as possible, so that we can inform the other members of the class & transport 'bubbles' about how they may (possibly) be affected. The protocols for securing a COVID-19 test and/or self-isolation periods will be followed. *Should a positive test be returned then we may have to consider closing school/transport bubbles.*

*Should a pupil become unwell on their way to school the transport company, KCC and the school will make a joint-decision as to how to manage the situation, using the relevant health advice – dependent on the particular situation.*

- **Clean hands thoroughly, more than usual:** all staff and students will be required to (or be supported to) apply hand gel on entry to the school building and each time they



## St Nicholas School Canterbury

pass a sanitisation station. All staff and students should wash their hands prior to eating (snacks or dinner) or drinking, on re-entry to the school building, prior to/after the removal gloves in personal care situations or after their come into accidental hand-to-hand contact with other people (or use hand sanitiser until the opportunity to wash hands occurs).

- All staff and students will be reminded to avoid touching their face prior to a hand wash.
- Pupils AND Staff will have daily (regular and explicit) hand washing activities to promote pupils' responsibility for their own personal hygiene – on arrival, before and after snack, before and after lunch, on return from playtimes, prior to leaving the building in addition to after the use of the toilet or whenever hands are dirty.
- Increased ventilation through the school and in the offices/classrooms/spaces which are in daily use.
- Hand Sanitisation will be used by all pupils AND staff each time they enter the main building, enter their 'bubble' area of the school and before entering/leaving the dinner hall, using the wall mountable sanitiser provided.
- **Ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the “catch it, bin it, kill it” approach:** (see robust respiratory hygiene regime above). The use of PPE when working with pupils who present a risk of spitting or the use of saliva as a sensory stimulant, must be considered. These risks must now be reflected within the pupils individual BSP/individual “risk assessments in order to support the pupils and staff working with them and is not a reason to deny these pupils face to face education”. If, however, a pupils is unable to refrain from spitting, and if all other strategies have been exhausted then the SLT may deem the pupil not ready to learn and we may ask the pupil to collect their child and educate them for the remainder of the day.
- **Introduce enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often using standard products such as detergents and bleach:** The class-based cleaning regimes - of our previous risk assessment - tables, frequently touched hard surfaces, chairs, materials and exterior play equipment will be continued (see COVID-19 expansion plan). Shared teaching or therapeutic rooms that are used will be at the discretion of the staff concerned and they will be cleaned after each use/between uses).

Specialist teachers will deliver their sessions remotely to reduce the transmission risk of staff moving between bubbles. Creative Therapies sessions will also be delivered remotely for the same reason. There will be no 1-1 withdrawal sessions lead by specialist HL/TA staff. Creative Therapies sessions will also be conducted 1:1, with movement of staff from the team between sites due to the essential nature of this work – additional mitigations will be designed by those staff concerned to introduce additional safety measures.

Additional cleaning provision, from a member of the school cleaning staff, will be established on a daily basis – the focus of this will be the hourly cleaning of all toilet areas, sessional cleaning of shared specialist resource areas (e.g. sensory/soft play rooms), small group teaching rooms and staff areas. Cleaning materials will be stored as per COSHH and Health and Safety guidelines, following an (in)formal training and guidance session from the site management team.

- **Face coverings must be used in communal areas by all staff and (secondary) students - who are not exempt.** Staff and secondary students *must* wear a face covering in all communal areas (this applies to any primary pupil who also wishes to take part in the wearing of a face covering also). Where appropriate, staff are prompted to wear a face covering all day in class (during teaching sessions). Parents may want their child/pupils (who are not exempt) may choose to wear a face inside class, or within shared spaces, if this is practicable and makes the child safer – safe management

## St Nicholas School Canterbury

cannot be assured though and this will not be enforced by staff. *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.*** To reduce transmissibility in shared spaces such as offices and corridors individuals must wear either a face visor or mask. This has been extended so that individuals may choose wear a face mask or visor in classes/teaching spaces in each session if they feel that this will make them safer and thus able to successfully access work. Parents may want/pupils may choose to wear a face in class if this is practicable and makes the child safer – safe management cannot be assured though and this will not be enforced by staff.

- **Minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible:** Minimising contacts and mixing between people reduces the risk of transmission of COVID-19. Maintaining distance and maintaining consistent bubbles presents a challenge in special settings:

**How to group children** – Class bubbles, within key stages and phases can provide a safer structure for planning learning, particularly when there are measures to avoid the large scale mixing and movement of pupil/staff groups, where possible. “Endeavouring to keep these groups at least partially separate and minimising contacts between children and young people will still offer public health benefits as it reduces the network of possible direct transmission. We will minimise contact between staff and pupils within their ‘class bubbles’. The different bubbles within Key Stage areas will avoid mixing but the different departmental bubbles must be kept apart, where practicable. At a satellite or off-site provision the numbers of pupils on-site within the St. Nicholas accommodation so they will be considered a large bubble in their own right (for track and trace purposes). Where safeguarding or Health & Safety emergencies present a need for staff to enter another bubble on an unplanned basis, the staff concerned will be invited to wear a face covering, face shield or gloves (as required) e.g. in feeding situations, all PPE items can be used. In rare and unavoidable circumstances, it may be considered necessary to all split a class bubble and place some pupils into other classes, to reduce the base class to a safe/manageable level. This will be recorded for on a monitoring sheet for contact tracing purposes – this will also apply to members of SLT, Well-being and ICT staff who move between bubbles also.

- Measures within the classroom – having consistent personalised resources (e.g. a pencil case sent in from home), socially distant (1m+) seating with staff sitting to the rear, the removal of excess furniture and (where appropriate/possible) forward facing desks can reduce the risks of direct or airborne viral transmission. Individual resources should be provided where possible, or if shared, cleaned between uses. Where cleaning or disinfection is not possible or practical, resources will have to be restricted to one user, or be left unused for a period of 48hours (72 hours for plastics) between uses by different individuals.
- Measures elsewhere and for arriving at/leaving the setting – When organising the timetabling of lessons and routines the creation of “busy” areas must be avoided. The school will plan for the staggering of play/break times, arrival/departure times, entry to the dinner hall, lunch sittings etc. to reduce the occasions when bubbles mixing. Primary and secondary bubbles should not come in contact with each other. KCC transport vehicles will be asked to arrive at the main site/6<sup>th</sup> Form at 8.45 am and pupils brought by parents arriving from **8.55 am** – they will remain in their vehicle, until collected by school staff; the departure too will be staggered with pupils collected from the appropriate hall from 2.45 pm (KCC transport) and **2.55 pm** (parents).
- Other considerations – The school timetable will be modified to allow for a recovery curriculum and enable a reduction in social contact, by reducing the occasions where groups/classes move around the school during the day. The majority of visitors are not currently allowed to come into school due to the risk of transmission. There will only be

## St Nicholas School Canterbury

limited access for essential visitors i.e. (NHS) therapy staff. Visiting specialists, therapist and clinicians will now be able to return and provide interventions, as usual (within their own particular working protocols and practices). All other monitoring visits/meeting contributions will be made via digital sources. All meetings will take place over digital media (e.g. Zoom, MS Teams, Skype and/or (speakerphone) telephone calls. Visiting staff or contractors should provide their own resources (where possible) and they will be required to wear a face covering (and any other appropriate PPE) throughout for the duration of their time in school – staff will try to keep the visit to larger (communal) spaces, with increased ventilation. The guidance documentation around hygiene and social distancing will be provided to all visitors upon or before arrival and all will need to confirm that they and their household have been symptom free for the 10 days prior to their visit on arrival – via the EntrySign system. Daytime/sessional community visits are now allowed, including the use of school vehicles (with enhanced cleaning protocols after use). All overnight residential activities continue to be suspended until further notice. Under the latest government advice (10 July 2020) pupils below the age of 11 will not be expected to wear a face covering if out in the community, but those over the age of 11 will be required to do so (with the exception of those who are exempt). Only 6<sup>th</sup> Form students, taking part in independent life skills activities may go on shopping visits, face masks must be worn at all times on these occasions.

- **Where necessary, wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):** for the use of PPE, please see the advice of the COVID-19 Expansion Plan.

Following the latest Government advice (Gov.UK 28/8/20a and 28/8/20b) 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. 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.***

We will abide by the mask/PPE wearing protocols of the mainstream schools who host our satellite classes.

Visiting specialists, NHS staff and contractors will be aware of the PPE most appropriate for their role and be required to wear a face covering, as a minimum, for the duration of their visit.

Staff involved with school lateral-flow COVID-19 testing programme will be required to wear full PPE at all times in the testing room whilst it is in use. From 8 March, we will move to a twice weekly home testing regime for staff and students for those wishing to take part, meaning that the in-school lateral flow test centre will be relocated (to the school gym) and slimmed down in scale, on Thursday 4 March.

*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.*

## St Nicholas School Canterbury

- **Engage with the NHS Test and Trace Process:** see Active Engagement with NHS Test and Trace Minimising contact (above) and attached risk assessment for the "St Nicholas School lateral flow COVID-19 testing programme.
- **Manage confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) amongst the school community:** Swift action will be taken when someone who has attended any setting/'bubble' tests positive for COVID-19. The school will support all appropriate staff or parents/carers will share the details of any people that they have had close contact with, whilst present –
  - Direct close contacts<sup>3</sup> – face to face contact with a case for any length of time, within 1 metre, including being coughed on, a face to face conversation, or unprotected contact (skin to skin).
  - Proximity contacts – extended close contact (within 1-2 metres for more than 15 minutes) with a person who has a confirmed case of COVID-19.
  - Travelling in a small vehicle, like a car with an infected person.

With the introduction of the St Nicholas School lateral flow COVID-19 testing programme, our staff will have the opportunity to have a twice weekly rapid test. If they are found to have tested positive they will need to leave the school immediately and seek a full PCR test. The remaining members of the bubble group may be able to return to school the next day provided they undergo a daily lateral flow self-administered test for the next week. NB: any staff member, primary child or secondary-aged test who does not choose to undergo daily testing must then self-isolate for the full 10 days, only able to return until their isolation period is complete.

From 4 March the operations will be moved to the school gym and be managed by 1 staff member only (who will perform all roles). From 8 March we will move to a twice weekly home testing programme with the equipment and kits stored and distributed from the gym, the new testing base of operations. A slimmed down in-school testing programme will still be on offer.

*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.*

- **Contain any outbreak by following local health protection team advice:** "If settings have 2 or more confirmed cases with 14 days, or an overall rise in sickness absence where coronavirus (COVID-19) is suspected they may have an outbreak, and must continue to work with their local health protection team who will be able to advise if

---

<sup>3</sup> A close contact is a person who has been "close to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 anytime from 2 days before the person was symptomatic up to 10 days from onset of symptoms (this is when they are infectious to others). For example, a contact can be:

- people who spend significant time in the same household as a person who has tested positive for COVID-19
- sexual partners
- **a person who has had face-to-face contact (within one metre), with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, including:**
  - being coughed on
  - having a face-to-face conversation within one metre
  - having skin-to-skin physical contact, or
  - **contact within one metre for one minute or longer without face-to-face contact**
- **a person who has been within 2 metres of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 for more than 15 minutes**
- a person who has travelled in a small vehicle with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or in a large vehicle or plane near someone who has tested positive for COVID-19"
- The staff and students in our school is considered a high priority workplace for the KHPT (**on 03442253861 or Out Of Hours 08449670085**) and the NHS due to the vulnerabilities of our client group, PHE (30/10/20).

## St Nicholas School Canterbury

additional action is required. The advice of the DFE/HPU/KCC will also be sought in the event of a local lockdown but the school will not be closing (fully) according to government guidance.

*In the event of a local lockdown affecting our offsite hosts the following arrangements will be in place for if they close:*

- *6<sup>th</sup> Form – Canterbury College will allow our 6<sup>th</sup> Form to remain open, even if they are closed.*
- *Penguins/Polar Bears – Our provision will remain open, even in a local lockdown unless we have a confirmed case. We must inform each other of any confirmed cases in our provisions.*
- *Hawking/Mercury – If Canterbury Primary is to close then our provision will be closed.*
- *St Johns –*
- *Canterbury Academy – Our provision will remain open, even in a local lockdown unless we have a confirmed case. we will keep each other informed of any confirmed cases in our provision*
- *Spires Academy – Our provision will remain open, even in a local lockdown unless we have a confirmed case. We must inform each other of any confirmed cases in our provisions.*
- *Caterpillars – Our provision will remain open, even in a local lockdown unless we have a confirmed case. We must inform each other of any confirmed cases in our provisions.*

- **School operations**

**Transport** – St Nicholas School operates a statutory SEND school transport route/provision. The number of pupils on this vehicles has increased its normal level due to the risk of coronavirus transmission being mitigated - due to their consistency and ability to monitor and trace pupil presence/contacts. Where practicable and possible, the school-managed transport provision will reflect:

- Consistent seating/grouping and the school's 'class bubble' structure (if appropriate).
- The use of hand sanitiser upon boarding/disembarking from the vehicle
- Additional cleaning of the vehicle
- Organised queuing and boarding
- 1M+ social distancing.
- **The use of face coverings, where appropriate, for pupils over the age of 11. School-based transport staff will wear a face covering, as per KCC policy.**
- Increased ventilation on the vehicle.

Arrival and Departure times will be staggered – 8.45 am until 2.45 pm for pupils brought in on transport/8.55 am until 2.55 pm for those brought in by parents. In the mornings, pupils will remain on their vehicles until they are asked to be brought in – those able to make their own way safely to class will be asked to do so, whilst those requiring support will be taken to their collection point by Passenger Assistants or parents/carers who will be wearing a face covering (only 1 parent/carer will enter the building at a time); this will reduce the number of people moving around the building at any particular time – pupils can be met at the main doors by class, if required. At the end of the day, pupils will be taken to the dining hall (for primary) at either 2.45 pm or 2.55 pm (as appropriate) to await collection by Passenger Assistants or parents/carers or wait to be collected from class (for secondary); this too will reduce the number of people moving around the building at any particular time. **Members of the Senior Leadership team or Site Management Staff will also martial the main foyer, car park and outside roads to enable the free movement of traffic in the local area – this will allow for prompt and timely movement of vehicles on and off the premises at the correct times.**

## St Nicholas School Canterbury

Attendance – It is expected that all pupils and staff should attend school full-time from 8 March (with the exceptions being those shielding due to being clinically extremely vulnerable or self-isolating due to a positive case/contact from NHS test and trace. The school is responsible for recording the attendance/following up the absence of all registered pupils. A phased inclusion plan will be established for students who are transitioning into school for the first time. An inclusion plan will also be designed for those pupils with significant physical or mental health needs who have felt anxious about attending, with a timescale created that has the agreement of the family.

Attendance expectations will be modified for individuals and groups of pupils, if they are following clinical or public health advice e.g. if they are self-isolation or 'shielding'. In exceptional circumstances, the school may deem that a pupil's health needs and the risk of contracting coronavirus supersedes their attendance of school. The pupil's lead health clinician – in conjunction with parents/carers and the St Nicholas school SLT – will take the lead in the decision making process if they deem that the individual's health and well-being could be severely compromised by attending school. This would only apply to those (potentially) required to 'shield' – see Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health clinically extremely vulnerable lists A and B: <https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/resources/covid-19-shielding-guidance-children-young-people#children-who-should-be-advised-to-shield>).

As St Nicholas School has implemented the full measures of the government guidance it is expected that all staff who are clinically vulnerable (DFE 9/7/2020 - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/staying-alert-and-safe-social-distancing/staying-alert-and-safe-social-distancing-after-4-july>), clinically extremely vulnerable (DFE 8/7/2020 - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/staying-alert-and-safe-social-distancing/staying-alert-and-safe-social-distancing-after-4-july#clinically-vulnerable-people>) or those living with those who are shielding should be able to attend the workplace but they should be diligent with their hand hygiene and observance of social distancing, where possible. The individual health needs of staff (or students) on the clinically extremely vulnerable or clinically vulnerable lists will be discussed and an individualised risk assessment (with potential use of additional PPE/face coverings in class) put in place, if they choose to ignore their shielding advice and wish to return to school. If it is deemed an unsafe risk the school reserves the right to refuse this request.

Where a parent/carer or pupils' anxieties about the potential for contracting coronavirus severely hamper the well-being or mental health of those involved, the school will try to look sympathetically on the matter and a time-limited period of home learning will be established to ensure that pupils can still engage with their learning programmes and not lose contact with school; this absence will be recorded with a C-code, another authorised circumstance.

**Educational Visits** – Some community-based learning opportunities can now be re-established, including the use school vehicles (with social distancing, where possible, and enhanced cleaning regimes after use). Outdoor learning spaces and Forest School opportunities are actively promoted for the improvement of physical and emotional well-being – and all off-site activity risk assessments should include the potential risk of transmission to/contracting coronavirus from members of the public. Some work-related learning activities are deemed appropriate as they will be in COVID secure learning environments. Overnight residential activities are currently suspended. Trips into town (shops, café's) and to swimming or horse-riding are currently deemed too risky.

**Extra-curricular provision (Breakfast Club)** – The breakfast club will not operate during national lockdown restrictions. The potential need for a breakfast club (from the level of families' interest) and the school's ability to staff the provision will be reviewed before a decision is made to whether the breakfast club can/will be re-opened after Easter.

## St Nicholas School Canterbury

### • **Curriculum, behaviour and pastoral support**

Despite experiencing a global health pandemic, education is not optional. 'All pupils need a high quality and engaging curriculum that helps prepare them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life'. The curriculum delivered will be broad, ambitious and relevant to the pupils' needs. Remote education will still play a role where appropriate. For the first 2.5 weeks of term 1 the pupils will receive a recovery curriculum built around their physical and emotional well-being, the regaining/reinforcement of basic learning, independence & social skills, as well as their own individual EHC outcomes. The prime areas of learning over the first few days, weeks and months will be communication and language; functional numeracy; personal, social and emotional development and pupils' physical development. Outdoor learning and physical activity, including forest school, access to the local community (e.g. going into shops as part of essential life skills activities for the oldest students, wearing masks) and regular exercise (for example a 'daily mile' walk, where appropriate) will be part of our curriculum focus. Going out of school for a walk is actively promoted on all sites due to the lack outdoor learning and well-being opportunities. Government-funded ICT devices have been delegated and distributed to vulnerable learners who do not previously have access to hardware that could allow access to online home learning activities. Recipients are selected following liaison with families in order to allocate the laptops and tablets to the pupils who needed them most.

Catch-up funding will be allocated on an individual and group basis with resources and interventions targeted to meet pupils' current well-being needs, as part of the recovery learning process, and to also be relevant for future use and priorities. Access to the Wellbeing Team for staff, families and pupils will be an important part of our core offer to the whole school community – building resilience and helping the creation of 'safe spaces' for people to express their thoughts, feelings and opinions.

All pupils who may exhibit challenging behaviour have an individual behaviour support plan. Those children who pose a risk to the others within the bubbles due to their lack of understanding of social distancing or their use of spitting to challenge or as a sensory stimuli all have an additional COVID-19 personal risk assessment to reflect the proactive, active and reactive strategies including therapeutic alternatives that may help to support their behaviour.

### • **Lateral Flow COVID-19 testing programme**

A full testing service has been established in the school dining hall, following a full training programme from government online learning/presentations and advice from a professional epidemiologist (see Risk Assessment for the St. Nicholas School Lateral Flow COVID-19 Testing Programme). The programme will be implemented according to government advice/guidance. Once the testing session is open and staff are wearing full PPE they cannot leave the testing hall, communications from the hall will be made to the SLT via 2-way radio.

The roles that make up the training programme have been assigned as follows:

- o KT – Team Leader and COVID-19 Coordinator & registration assistant & results coordinator
  - o EW – Team Leader and COVID-19 Coordinator & processor
  - o AB – Test Assistant/processor/cleaner
  - o TN – Test Assistant/cleaner
  - o TO – Test Assistant/cleaner
  - o SM – Results recorder
  - o JW – Registration assistant/cleaner
- Reserve staff (if required) – EH

## St Nicholas School Canterbury

It will be the intention that staff complete their regular test on the same day/time each week booked in via a timetable.

**Staff from the STLS and/or Sensory Service do not attend school on a fixed or regular basis so will have their tests when and if they are at St Nicholas.** The STLS staff may take part in the twice weekly home testing programme.

From Thursday 4 March, SM will become the coordinator for the school testing programme. She will also operate a small lateral flow test centre from the new base of testing operations, the school gym. She will also store and distribute the equipment for the twice weekly home testing programme from this new testing centre.

- **Assessment and accountability**

St Nicholas School will continue to use all the school-wide formative and summative assessment systems to monitor and record progress against the pupils' EHC Outcomes, targets and individualised programmes using Earwig, PEPs, MOVE assessment, SHINE assessment, SCERTS as appropriate. The school will also give each pupil an accurate reading age and phonics assessment level by the end of term 1. For pupils in 14-19 a new of accreditation will begin. The school will also fulfil its statutory reporting responsibilities regarding the school website etc.

- **Contingency planning for outbreaks**

If the local area sees a spike in infection rates or there are 2 or more infections within any one area of our school in a 2 week period it may result in a (full or partial) temporary closure of St Nicholas School. We will follow all available support and advice offered by the Local Authority Education Officer and Public Health England. At this point the school *could* close to all but the children of Key workers who cannot be educated at home and those who are deemed most at risk of being Socially vulnerable (by being safer in school than at home) – see COVID19 expansion plan. Those pupils not in school will have access to a programme of specialist remote and home learning programmes as soon as reasonably practicable, using online, physical and environmental media. If the school is provided with additional ICT infrastructure for vulnerable pupils to use at home (laptops, tablets and 4G wireless routers) they will be allocated in-line with government and/or local authority guidance. The school will aim to remain open, as far as possible - as a special school (that can make its own choice over priorities and protocols) to meet the needs of the pupils and their families during the most challenging of times.

- **Home Learning**

Where a pupil is unable to attend school – due to either quarantining (follow their return from a country, self-isolating following their experience of or contact with a person exhibiting symptoms of coronavirus. shielding following medical advice – a full programme of high quality home learning activities (including digital access to web-based learning programs and live-streamed lessons) will be established, as soon as reasonably practicable. The programme will consist of planned work for between 3-5 hours per pupil per day. Where pupils are part of phased return to school due to anxiety, a discussion will be held with the family (about enabling a safe and confident return to school as soon as possible according to the pupil's particular needs) they will have access to a more limited range of home learning support – being educated in school should be the aim and is the best/most appropriate place for learning.

- **Initial Teacher Training**

The school will be contacted by the ITT providers involved with the school as to how they will wish to modify the observation methodology (remote observation and moderation) and amendments to the period of different placements during the training year - including



## St Nicholas School Canterbury

(potentially) extending the training period beyond this school year – to the sufficient amount of time required.

**All mental health and well-being protocols from the previous risk assessment (COVID-19 expansion plan) still apply and the same suite of supports for staff, pupils and parents/carers/families are and will continue to be on offer.**

### Record of Risk Assessment

**Hazard Assessed:** Risks posed to/by St Nicholas School staff by being present on the site on the main school campus or satellite provision at mainstream partner organisation, during the COVID-19/coronavirus global pandemic.

**Location:** St Nicholas School, all campuses

**Date of Initial Assessment:** 10/07/2020

**Description of Risk:** Exposure to (potentially known and understood) physical, social and mental health risks – for individuals and their immediate family members – as a result of being in enclosed environments with an increase in personal interactions with other pupils (who may not have the capacity or ability to follow the prescribed health advice) and adults (parents, school and transport staff) during the time of an active global health pandemic.

**This action plan will list the revised practices and procedures that have been created to address the protective areas, so as to reduce the level of potential Covid-19 transmission, with its associated physical and mental health risks.**

- A) St Nicholas School Main Site
- B) 6<sup>th</sup> Form Campus @ Canterbury College – a site specific RA has been completed.
- C) St Nicholas at Chartham Primary School - Children to keep within their classroom bubbles during the day. Children to make efforts to keep to a 1m rule in class. Hand sanitising to take place upon leaving the bus and all transitions and eating activities. Children to remain in their bus until a member of staff collects them. Children will continue to eat lunch in the classroom. Children will play in their designated playground zone daily and not deviate from this. Assemblies will not take place. Children may attend Forest School on site. A weekly walk around Chartham will take place.
- D) St Nicholas at Canterbury Primary School
- E) St Nicholas at Spires Academy – specific mitigations: 1M+ rule in class/groups, optional face mask use in communal school areas, optional (but promoted) use of face coverings: shields or masks in class, hand sanitisation on entry to/exit from our building, staggered breaks and lunches, PE kit to be worn all day on PE days (to avoid the need for using changing rooms), visitors from St Nicholas must wear masks. PPA must not be taken in communal areas and preferably it should be taken at home.
- F) Canterbury Academy School - Students to keep within their classroom bubble during the day. Students to make efforts to keep to a 1m rule in class and activities in PE, Music, Food

## St Nicholas School Canterbury

tech, breaks and lunch. Hand sanitising to take place on entry to the building with temperature taking to take place through day. Visitors to adhere to timetabled rooms by prior arrangements with face masks when possible and when allowed. Communal door handles, toilet facilities to be cleaned through day. Only those students requiring a school lunch are to eat in the canteen, those having a packed lunch are to stay behind and eat in their classroom.

- G) St Nicholas at St John's Primary
- H) Caterpillars Specialist Pre-School (at Parkside Primary) – an additional site specific RA is available.

### ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS

Car Parks – Staff should observe social distancing rules whilst in the car park and should show each other respect, patience and a wait to walk to their cars, if appropriate.

Air conditioning units have an extremely low risk of transmitting the coronavirus (within the aerosol droplets created by the devices) may not be in use on certain host sites due to their own particular policies and RAs due to the risk of transmitting of Covid-19. St Nicholas School main site, 6<sup>th</sup> Form and Spires Academy will follow the advice of the HSE:

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/coronavirus/equipment-and-machinery/air-conditioning-and-ventilation.htm> and now follow this advice so as to be able to use air conditioning units from now on. Hand driers have the same (low level of risk) so some sites will be allowed to use them, but those sites for whom permission is not given (by the satellite host) we still have an ample supply paper towels to dry hands with, instead: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19/heritage-locations>

### Fire Assembly Points

A

- The different bubbles will be allocated a new (specific and demarcated) Fire Assembly point on the school playground – Primary will be on the main playground, KS4/5 groups will be near the bicycle sheds and KS3 groups will be in the MUGA.

B

- Staff will walk from the main school to the 6<sup>th</sup> Form building. Staff should observe social distancing. Staff must use the green path to enter the campus and cross over the pink path at the UCL building. 6<sup>th</sup> form teachers have access only to their 3 car park bays. There is a pathway crossing our building for Canterbury College people that will need to be kept clear at 10am, 12.30, 1.30 and 4pm.

C/D/ E

- Original Fire Assembly Points – but observing SD.

F

- Fire Assembly Points for the St Nicholas satellite are on the school field between the rugby posts along the hedge end of the field. Students will exit from classrooms via fire exists and staff will wear high vis and use paper registers to record those present.

G

- The Fire Assembly Point is the usual place – in the playground by the fence of the astroturf.

H

- The car park area of Parkside is the Fire Assembly point. The Teacher-In-Charge will report to the fire marshal when the group is assembled.

Playground/playground equipment –

A

## St Nicholas School Canterbury

- Our outdoor playground equipment can be used but will be cleaned by staff with disinfectant once per day on a rota basis. A rota for staggered playtimes has been produced for 1 bubble group to access the playground and 1 group using the MUGA for 2x 10 minute outdoor experiences across the day – to ensure groups do not meet. The use of all playground equipment needs to be monitored and all hand rails and hand surfaces will be sprayed after their final use of the day – unless a pupil has been seen to lick/spit/sneeze onto a surface. All class-based balls and hand held equipment will be dip cleaned after use. The use of all playground equipment needs to be monitored and all hand rails and hand surfaces will be sprayed after their final use of the day – unless a pupil has been seen to lick/spit/sneeze onto a surface. All class-based balls and hand held equipment will be dip cleaned after use.
- KS1 classes have access to their own specific playground areas so they can have breaktimes of their own choosing.
- KS2: 10.30 – 10.50 am and 12.45 – 1.15 pm
- KS3: 10.50 – 11.10 am and 12.05 – 12.25 pm
- KS4: 11.10 – 11.30 am and 12.25 – 12.45 pm

### B

- The kitchen, front garden and small decking areas will be available for each Class bubble to access on a timetabled basis for leisure opportunities. The leisure room will be used by a different group each day, if desired. Lunch clubs will continue to remain closed.

### C

- Playground equipment is out of bounds. Penguin and Polar Bear classes will go out to play from 10.40 am to 11.10 am and will use the Tyre Zone.

### D

- Hawking and Mercury classes may use some of their own equipment in the playground but it must be kept away from and separate to the play equipment of CPS. The staff from both classes mix during lunchtime breaks to ensure adequate supervision of all pupils.

### E

- N/A – an outside seating area, playground area, access to MUGA and field.

### F

- N/A – Staff only to work in the classes before the summer (or 1-1 escorted new transitioning pupils on a visit) – all will observe SD and hygiene/cleaning regimes.

### G

- Students to maintain a 1m distance when arriving in school and are not to congregate in corridors unless waiting for a toilet. Face masks are to be worn by staff and parents during the handover time.

### H

- The outdoor play equipment can be used but will be cleaned by the staff with disinfectant spray between uses. The use of all playground equipment will be monitored and all hand rails and surfaces will be sprayed after use.

### Use of school vehicles –

#### A/B/D/E/F/G

- Bubble groupings will now have access to go off-site in school vehicles and be able out on foot. Government guidance states that if the children or young people being transported do not have symptoms of coronavirus, there is no need for the driver to use PPE. If school staff are driving school vehicles we have decided that the staff **must** use a face mask if they choose and *supply* it in order to feel safer. Pupils over 11 may also wear a face covering on a school

## St Nicholas School Canterbury

vehicle. The windows of the vehicle will be opened to increase ventilation and socially distant seating should be observed, with spaces left clear between all passengers – where practicable – and additional mitigations will need to take place e.g. the use of handwashing and sanitiser before departure from the building, entry to/exit from the bus etc. If staff are transporting a pupil displaying symptoms of coronavirus then a vehicle with a bulkhead will be used, driver/escort/passenger will maintain (where possible) a 2m distance, the driver/escort will use PPE and the passenger will use a face mask if they are old enough and/or able to do so. Any use of school transport vehicles will be closely risk assessed at the planning stage.

There will be a vehicle providing SEND transport for the pupils coming into/home from school. There will be consistent drivers and escorts, as far as practicable, who will organise the pupils into socially distant places on the vehicle. There will be a deep clean of the bus on at the end of the day to disinfect the hard surfaces and seats. Staff may wear gloves and a face covering if they see fit.

### C

- There will be no access to school vehicles, or transportation of pupils by St Nicholas School staff during this period. There will be no community visits in either St Nicholas or Chartham vehicles.

Classrooms (including layout of furniture) –

### A

- Classes should be organised into a new socially distant layout which have the minimum amount of furniture required. Any soft toys or fabric materials will be removed from the classrooms, where possible; the allocation of all resources will be carefully planned. Furniture will be organised into a forward facing layout, where appropriate.

### B

- Students will be allocated a desk and chair (at a social distance, where possible) with additional classroom mitigations. Students will not be allowed to mix outside of their bubble or access other classrooms. Only one class at a time may use the leisure room. Only whole classes will have access to (community) facilities, off campus.

### C/D/F/G

- As A

### E

- The rooms have been laid out to be as socially distant as possible.

### G

- To be confirmed in January 2021.

### H

- There will be 5 children in the “Caterpillars” bubbles in a large area which enables SD. Any soft toys or fabric materials will be removed from the pre-school setting, where possible.

Corridors –

### A

- One way systems are not practicable within the whole school, due to its layout and the needs of the pupils. Corridors are for constant movement and travelling – staff should avoid stopping to talk, liaise or have a corridor meeting - unless social distancing (SD) can be assured. Ventilation in corridors will be increased, where possible. Due to the level of traffic into the Primary Department and the dining hall (on arrival, departure and at lunch time) a one-way system has been put in place at key times of the day to reduce the transmission risks caused by gathering or queuing people. Only one parent/carer per family is allowed to enter the

## St Nicholas School Canterbury

school at the beginning and end of the day (wearing a face mask) for drop off/collection of their child.

### B

- Students will be kept within their class bubbles (doors will be kept open) unless they need to move en mass or go to the toilet – at these times the supervising staff member will call out to ensure that the corridor is clear. There will be line markings to encourage social distancing and waiting areas. Break and lunch times are to be staggered to prevent mixing, Students are to enter and leave 1 at a time, as directed by management.

### C

- One way system in place

### D

- A one-way system is in place. At the end of the day parents must walk children all the way round the back of the school and not cut across the playground to get to the main gate.

### E

- There are one way systems to be followed and floors are marked out in an SD fashion.

### F

- Students to maintain a 1m distance when arriving in school and are not to congregate in corridors unless waiting for a toilet

### G

- Access to Puffin class is via 2 outside areas, so there are no corridors.

### H

- One parent/carer (at a time) only is to be given access to the pre-school at drop offs and collections. SD will be enforced, where practicable, in the quiet area and in the classroom.

Office spaces (and RA for shared spaces) –

### A

- Social distancing cannot be assured in hot-desking. Where staff cannot be sat 2m apart, we will re-locate to different office spaces which are not shared. If staff are able to work in shared spaces (observing social distancing) then good ventilation must be created. A risk assessment has taken place and some small office rooms have been deemed only appropriate for 2 (SLT and yellow/silver star), 3 (Family support, sunflower and therapy room), 4 (gold star), 5 (Shine) and 6 (Curriculum Support) – the training centre has been deemed appropriate for a maximum of 11 people (if staying for more than 15 minutes). This is based upon size, seating positions and levels of ventilation.

### B

- Both office spaces will be open for socially distant working.

### C

- No access to office space, but access to photocopier observing SD

### D

- No access to office space, but access to photocopier – to be wiped down after use

### E

- N/A

### F

## St Nicholas School Canterbury

- Office/meeting space to be used with good ventilation and SD

G

- No access to office spaces, own photocopier (in Puffin Class) is used.

H

- The office at Parkside can be occupied by 2 staff at a time. SD and good ventilation can be enabled with both staff working in a forward facing direction towards the windows.

Meeting spaces –

A

- Social distancing cannot necessarily be assured in meeting situations, within office spaces. Where staff cannot be sat 2m apart, small internal meetings will need re-locate to a larger space e.g. the training centre, where social distancing can be assured. A maximum number of 11 people, observing social distancing rules, use of face coverings, enhanced hygiene measures and good ventilation has been established. From Term 5 we will begin to use the training centre for larger meetings and training sessions, as per the above criteria.

Toilets –

A

- There will be increased daily cleaning, on an hourly basis with door handle, flush, toilet seat, tap, hand drier, hand towel holders, sanitary bin lids all cleaned with disinfecting spray. A cleaner will work within the school all day, for the time being.

B

- There will be increased daily cleaning (using wet wipes) that will form part of the students' life skills programme. Staff will supervise to wipe down, taps toilets seats and handles – they will be required to do this for themselves in the staff toilets. The only cleaning regime from Canterbury College will be overnight. However staff will work with students to regularly clean frequently used items throughout the day e.g. door handles, ICT equipment.

C

- One-way route to the toilets. Queuing. Chartham cleaner on site all day to do the toilet hygiene regime.

D/E/F

- Staff and students are to use their own toilet areas – St Nicholas staff are to maintain the enhanced cleaning regime on a rota basis.

G

- The toilets are located next to the classroom. Pupils are supervised by staff during the day. Clinical waste is disposed of weekly as part of the St Nicholas School contract. St John's cleaning staff are responsible for cleaning Puffin class, their toilet area and emptying the main bins.

H

- Staff will be responsible for cleaning after pupils' use – morning and overnight cleaning will take place by Parkside school cleaners.

Hygiene spaces –

A/D/E/F/H

- Ensure all normal processes are observed by class staff – particularly the wiping of bed, rails and (now) hoist controller after use. Handles, taps, hand driers/hand towel holders will now be part of the cleaner's routine. St Nicholas satellite staff are to maintain the enhanced cleaning regimes on a rota basis.

## St Nicholas School Canterbury

### B

- Students and staff will clean toilet seats, handles, taps, flush etc using anti-bac wet wipes after every use (staff will support/supervise students as required). Prior to using any toilet facility student/staff must knock on the door to determine if it is occupied; if it is they must move back to the waiting area marked out to enable social distancing to occur at change over.

### C

- N/A

### G

- To be confirmed in January 2021.

### Training kitchen spaces-

#### A

- The Food Tech room will be open for Secondary bubble groups who may access cookery lessons, but will need to provide the enhanced cleaning regime.

#### B

- The kitchen space may be utilised by 'bubbles' for break times on a rostered basis. The students with staff support will participate in cleaning the area as they exit e.g. wiping down surfaces/door handles etc. The room may be utilised for cooking purposes, and hygiene measure will be followed through this activity, with an appropriate clean up afterwards. The water fountain will not be in use for the foreseeable future due to the potential risk of virus transmission.

#### C/D/E/G

- No access to cookery rooms.

#### E

- Students will follow the Canterbury academy one way system and enter and exit the building using the correct arrows and make sure the hand saniters is used on entry and exit to the building

#### H

- The kitchen area will only be accessible to staff.

### Specialist rooms –

#### A

- Some specialist rooms will be remain closed until further notice but there will be access to Soft Play, P and S, gym, SafeSpaces and sensory rooms on a timetabled basis – the cleaner will do a hard surface clean twice per day so that 3 daily sessions can be planned (or more if the classes/staff disinfect the surfaces after their additional use). The Art and music rooms will be accessible to staff to gather resources. The sports hall (and dining hall) will be open for whole classes to access PE sessions (including the use of the trampoline). The remaining specialist rooms will be locked and taken out of use. The Food Tech Room may be used by secondary class bubbles along with the ICT suite. The DT Room may be used as an emergency breakout space, but staff involved will be responsible for cleaning the surfaces and equipment used at the end of each session. The library spaces may only be used for the exchange of books.

#### B

- The kitchen space may be utilised by 'bubbles' for break times on a rostered basis. The students with staff support will participate in cleaning the area as they exit e.g. wiping down surfaces/door handles etc. The room may be utilised for cooking purposes, and hygiene measure will be followed through this activity, with an appropriate clean up afterwards.

## St Nicholas School Canterbury

### C/D/E/G/H

- No access to specialist rooms.

Hydro pool – St Nicholas School will implement the Swim England “Returning to the pool: Guidance for operators” 13/7/20 in our limited re-opening plans for the hydro pool.

- School use – there will be only FOUR sessions in each day: 10 – 10.30 am/10.45 – 11.15 am and 1.15 – 1.45 pm/2 – 2.30 pm. The pool sides, floors, changing rooms, surfaces and staff changing areas will be cleaned by the site management team between each use. THIS WILL BE A REDUCED SERVICE.

**As we have a no visitors policy at the moment this applies to external use of our pool by outside partner organisations.**

Dining hall –

The hall has been taken out of use to become the lateral flow test centre, until Friday 5 March; from 8 March it will be open for PE sessions and to be part of the one-way system. All meals will continue to be eaten in the classroom, on all sites. All meals for pupils in satellite classes will be eaten in the classroom. Staff who have an office-base may eat their meal in their office space, observing good hygiene.

**If 6th Form students have prepared their lunch meal (as part of life skills activities) then they will be able to eat their meal in the kitchen space, observing social distancing and good cleaning/hygiene measures.**

A

- The dining hall will be available for use for PE lessons but any equipment that is used will need to be cleaned after use. All other staff who collect their meal from the dining hall will observe social distancing and be responsible for the return of all plates, bowls and cutlery, as normal. All pupil meals will continue to be eaten with in the classroom bubbles until further notice to restrict movement within bubbles.

B

- Students will be have their lunch within their ‘bubble’. Meals will be eaten in refectory.

F

- Students use dining hall to eat a school meal, pupils eating a packed lunch will remain in the St. Nicholas classes. This is accessed by arrowed one way systems and should use hand sanitiser on entry and exist to the spaces.

G

- Puffins are eating their own packed lunches in class.

H

- Pupils and staff are to bring in their own packed lunch from home.

Staff rooms (inc. Training Centre kitchen) –

A

- These will be closed for some of the time with people waiting to make a hot drink 1 person (at a time) with staff not allowed to wait/take a break there – staff are to remain within their bubbles, as far as is possible. Staff will have staggered breaks. If a small groups of staff do choose to use the staffroom to sit and relax, they may do but social distancing of 1m+/2m must be observed at all times.

B

- Staff from the same bubble group can go into the staffroom together to make snacks, drinks or access the fridge, observing social distance during this time.

C/E/F

- Social distancing observed



## St Nicholas School Canterbury

D

- Small Spires staff room is closed due to the inability to SD.

G

- No access to a staff room.

H

- 'Caterpillars' staff can eat in the office or quiet area 2 at a time observing SD.

Foyer spaces – Staff on all sites will ensure that any essential visitors/contractors/agents that are allowed on-site are wearing a face covering and they will need to confirm on the EntrySign system that they/their household have been symptom-free for the 10 days prior to their visit

A/F/H

- Observe Social distancing when waiting in the entrance hall and stand in the marked waiting area. The door entry system/front office counter and all door fob sensors will be part of the enhanced cleaning regime. Staff should consider cleaning their own name badges, as they deem appropriate. A COVID-19 policy has been added to the door entry system.

B

Students and staff will be encouraged to move through these spaces quickly to their class base. When there is movement through the day this will be 'bubbles' only and when this occurs staff members will clearly communicate movements to the other groups.

C/D/E

- Social distancing in the main Chartham School/Spires Academy/Canterbury Primary School reception areas and their published hygiene regimes.

F

- Students, staff and other visitors entering in the building through a porch area, pausing only to register, sign in and have a temperature taken. Visitors should present themselves in advance with prior notification with room booking and wear a face mask if appropriate.

G

- There is no need to access the other areas of the school as Puffin class is isolated and accessible via 2 outside areas. Bubbles will be no more than 2 children, with 2 staff.

PPE –

A - H

- As described above – it is not recommended for use due to the impracticalities and development of our C/YP. Due to the potential for close face to face contact with pupils in personal care a stock face masks will be placed into hygiene areas (*for optional use*). Any PPE provided is to be maintained by the individual, if appropriate. PPE must be used in personal care situations or if working with somebody who poses a risk of spitting/displaying symptoms. All PPE and tissues are to be disposed of in a lidded bin with the bag removed daily by cleaning staff and then stored for 72 hours, until it is deemed safe to go into the general waste.

Staff must wear a face covering if they are moving within corridor and communal areas and should, where practicable wear a face mask at all times in class, office or learning areas. Staff will be offered a face covering if they are moving between bubbles in an unplanned/emergency situation; recorded on a trace sheet, + face shield for feeding pupils from other bubbles. **This will apply to members of SLT and ICT staff who enter different bubbles.**

## St Nicholas School Canterbury

### Forest School (Ross Woods Scout Camp) Site Risks –

The school uses a shared site (with areas for four other organisations) which is managed by the Scout Association/Canterbury Academy (Youth Service). The area is outside and away from the general population the risk of airborne COVID-19 transmission is deemed **very low**; the risk of touch-contact related transmission is deemed **low** due to the enhanced hand washing and hygiene measures that are already in place due to the nature of the forest school environment and the nature-based activities that take place there. Other risks (caused by outdoor and adventurous or forest school activities and equipment) are deemed **low** due to the full range of Risk Assessments created by the host site and our Forest School Leaders. The School has access to 2 separate areas. Only 1 class bubble group can be present at each site at a time, the groups cannot mix. Groups will be coached at a social distance by a qualified leader who will advise the support staff present how to support the pupils. The leader will maintain their own safety/safe distance and will not have any interactions with the groups at nearer than 3m distance. The Forest School leader(s) will make their way to the site separate from the group.

### COVID-19 specific Risks

| <b>Risks presented by host site:</b> | <b>Mitigation:</b>  |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| General area                         | hand sanitiser stations available in all areas inc. outside toilets     |
| Toilet area                          | 1 cubicle only in use in each toilet, 1 in/1 out waiting, anti-bac soap |
| Hand washing station                 | antibacterial soap and hand sanitiser available.                        |
| Shared play equipment areas          | robust hand washing/hygiene measures after any use, as approp           |
| Shared activities/equipment          | robust hand washing/hygiene measures after any use, as approp           |
| Open buildings (e.g. hall)           | robust hand washing/hygiene measures after any use, as approp           |
| Interaction with other groups        | group in separate areas/social distancing observed where approp.        |

| <b>Risks presented by St Nicholas use:</b> | <b>Mitigation:</b>  |
|--|---|
| School-based forest school area            | robust handwashing and social distancing measures to be observed    |
| School-based activities                    | robust handwashing after use, with social distancing between people |
| School-based equipment                     | robust handwashing after use  |
| Transport to the venue                     | see use of school vehicles above                                    |

**The full risk assessment suite for the Forest School site can be found in the Forest School Handbook.**

### PROFESSIONAL/PERSONAL INTERACTION RISKS

Risks posed to/by pupils –

A - H

- The use of Physical Interventions will continue to be a truly last resort due to the abandonment of social distancing. Should a PI be used all ordinary health and safety risks will need to be observed, so too good a hand washing regime afterwards. If there are a severe or dangerous episodes of challenging behaviour, it may one trigger a review of the pupils' BSP and, potentially, a review of their placement. Face masks and shields will be used by staff if they are working with pupils who pose a known risk of spitting – this too may trigger a BSP and/or placement, in the most serious of cases.

## St Nicholas School Canterbury

Pupils must bring a named water bottle into school, to reduce the risk of cross-contamination. It must be filled/refilled from a flowing stream of water, with the mouth/neck of the bottle NOT placed around a tap – adult supervision will be required.

The 48 hour rule (after illness symptoms subside) will be observed for any and all cold or gastro-intestinal health concerns to prevent the risk of spreading the coronavirus in asymptomatic individuals (via sneezing, vomiting or defecation). Quarantine and self-isolation procedures are described above.

Students will be taught a recovery curriculum about the application of basic life skills, social distancing, regular/increased handwashing, good nose hygiene (use of tissues). The main areas of our curriculum focus for all pupils are the renewal of PSHE skills, personal independence and their EHC targets.

Movement between Class and Key stage 'bubbles' will be limited to minimise the risk of COVID-19 transmission. There will be no mixing of bubbles between the departments (with the exception of potential 'KCC Transport bubbles'). Movement within key stage bubbles will be limited to only the emergency responses to low staffing in a particular area e.g. at learning or feeding times.

Pupils will need to use toilets shared between the key stage bubbles. This will require a degree of staggering, where possible, and increased staff supervision of corridors and cubicle areas to ensure that good hand hygiene is promoted and the risk of mixing is reduced.

Although most classes are operating in small bubbles made up of their own pupils, 2 new bubbles have been created at 6th Form and 1 combined bubble from S2A and S4B pupils have been created at Canterbury Academy Secondary School, due to the very small numbers of students returning January 2021 on each site.

Pupils and staff should change their clothes as soon as they get home each day and then the dirty clothes be put into the wash. They should have a full wash/shower/bath too.

**Any pupil who requires (Tracheostomy) Suctioning and/or requires an Aerosol Generating Procedure (AGP) due to their tracheostomy has had an individualised risk assessment drawn up with a named indoor and outdoor location named for the emergency and necessary use of AGP. Those staff taking part in the procedure will wear full PPE (including FFP2/3 respirator, fluid repellent long-sleeved gown, gloves and eye protection).**

**The school understands the new guidance from Public Health England (13/11/20), that oral suctioning is no longer a procedure classed as AGP.**

*St Nicholas School can take no responsibility for the decision making-processes (regarding PPE, allocation, eligibility, provision or staffing), social distancing and/or other safety practices that may be take place on KCC transport (vehicles).*

Risks posed to/by staff –

A - H

- Staff will receive and must follow training and guidance to reinforce the mindset of social distancing between themselves (as staff) with a reduction in proximity/tactile greetings, not mixing between different groups, the promotion of much increased handwashing for themselves and the pupils, and to take a moment to consider whether they should take the risk of getting face to face/nose to nose with (or embracing) the pupils. Classes have had MS Teams (or other digital) meetings with their staff to share the guidance/training about the schools' current priorities of social distancing, risk management, good hand hygiene and the new Covid-19 Safety Measures. School meetings will observe social distancing and use a mixture of face to face (Training Centre) and/or digital means where appropriate.

## St Nicholas School Canterbury

Staff should observe the rule of 6, wear a mask (where appropriate) and 2M social distancing when on their way to/from school or when on their breaks. They are responsible for managing their own risks in their own time.

There will be limited face to face training with in school after Easter. Any CPL opportunities will be led by remotely (whether from internal/external/visiting trainers). Only PROACT-SCIPr-UK® Physical Intervention training for new staff will take place in F2F session before Term 5- 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.

Staff are advised to take their PPA off-site at home as this reduces the number of adults present in the school buildings. With specific permission of the SLT, the PPA room could be used by only by 2 people at a time observing Social Distancing and with the wearing of a face mask (communal area). We would prefer that empty classrooms, office spaces or the staff room were not used for PPA at this time, without specific permission of the SLT, and if agreed, only 1 staff member at a time can be present who is responsible for the cleaning of the work space used.

Office bubbles are an appropriate setting but there will be ordinarily be a maximum of 3 staff members only in any shared office area (as appropriate) dependent on the room's size and ventilation mitigations. Face coverings will be worn if more than one person is present in the room.

If staff are bringing a water bottle into school, it must be filled/refilled from a flowing stream of water, the mouth/neck of the bottle is not placed around a tap - to reduce the risk of cross-contamination.

Some HL/TA staff provide private support – out of school hours - for individual children (in their own class/from other classes). In order to be aware of the implications caused by this potential conflict of interest the school regularly asks for details of these arrangements. This information will also be used to be aware of the potential transmission risk of COVID-19 too, for track and trace purposes.

### **PLEASE SEE THE ATTACHED APPENDIX – RISK ASSESSMENT FOR VULNERABLE STAFF GROUPS AND POTENTIAL EXPOSURE TO THE CORONAVIRUS**

Risks posed to/by other adults (i.e. KCC transport staff) –

A - H

- All transport staff will be provided with a copy of the risk assessment and the Covid-19 Safety Measures. They will be expected to follow the school staff guidance of self-isolating/testing if symptomatic and observing the "48 hour rule" if they have a cold or gastro-intestinal health issue.

Congregation and ignoring of social distance rules – staff are not to leave their vehicles now at any time. Our staff will collect or bring out the pupils. They are not to use our smoking facilities. Vehicles will be actively encouraged to arrive on time and leave the premises straight away. Our toilets may be used, only in the case of an emergency and once all pupils have left the area, the corridors are empty and they observe social distancing. At these times hygiene rules must be observed and they are to await direction from the ELT as to when it is safe to enter/leave the building(s).

All transport staff will be expected to wear a face covering when in the school building and any additional PPE that their company or KCC deem appropriate.

## St Nicholas School Canterbury

Risks posed to visitors (including governors, visiting agents, course delegates and contractors) with a record of all visitors to all sites maintained centrally for test and trace purposes –

A & F

- As there is a national lockdown almost all visitors will not be allowed on-site. Any essential visiting agents, professionals and contractors are to be provided with the leaflet of our Covid-19 measures and be expected to follow them and social distancing when on-site. They will be observed whilst on-site if possible/practicable from a social distance and be on-site for the shortest time possible; they are to wear a face covering for the duration of their visit. If visitors are attending training on-site, there will be a maximum group size of 8 – 11 people in the training centre (including trainers) with furniture arranged in the appropriate socially distant fashion, with additional sanitisation, air circulation and learning breaks established to mitigate risks - any delegate choosing to have the light refreshments on offer will do so at their own risk. Meals will not be provided on courses at this current time.

Prospective parents, carers and pupils will also be invited to attend school for transition visits (out of school hours) when there are relatively few adults - and no pupils - present in the building. All visitors will wear a face covering (and / or any appropriate gloves, aprons etc. as required) throughout their stay on-site and must confirm on the EntrySign system that they (and all members of their household) have had no symptoms of COVID-19 or tested positive for the 10 days prior to their visit. The 'Rule of 6', Social Distancing, large room/spaces used and increased ventilation are some of the examples of mitigations that will be in place during special planned visits to the school.it.

B

- As A; however the building will be cleaned by the cleaning staff of Canterbury College between the hours of 4 – 8 pm (this will be after all students and staff have left, therefore reducing the risk of transmission). The college staff are able to maintain direct contact with the named ELT member onsite through the college radio system, therefore any urgent visits e.g. for maintenance purposes can be announced and planned for accordingly.

C – H

- To be confirmed by all sites, (see individual site risk assessments accessible on the individual school websites.

**All meetings will take place via digital means due to visitors not being allowed on-site at any site and to prevent the mixing of staff/pupil groups. All visitors (including parents) will be invited to join meetings via digital means.**

Risks posed by therapeutic input from the school creative therapies team (staff and students) –

A, B

- School staff may again choose to engage in therapy sessions with pupils on the main site, 6th Form and out at Spires Academy. The Yellow or Silver Star rooms will be used to host counselling and/or art therapy sessions on the main site (with additional cleaning regime in place). The kitchen, office spaces or leisure room may be used at the 6th Form Site. Social Distancing (observed as far as practicable) and good (hand) hygiene/ventilation will to be in place during these sessions – the staff involved will be responsible for the creation of additional mitigations to reduce potential transmission further and to introduce additional safety measures

C/D/E/F/G/H

- To be confirmed in March 2021.

NHS staff (including nurses and therapists)

A – H

- Therapy input may take place with pupils in 1-1 settings, provided they can access a non-carpeted area and observe SD. All NHS staff will wear the PPE deemed appropriate for them for the duration of their time onsite. A small room may be booked for activities and observations if it is deemed that the class space is inappropriate, is too busy or would have too many people within it.

## St Nicholas School Canterbury

Creative therapies – the team will look at how the 'Silver star' and 'Yellow star' rooms can be used differently:

- Face coverings will be worn during sessions
- There will be a reduction of equipment in the rooms to aid cleaning between sessions
- All shared items would be cleaned or left for 72hrs between sessions
- Each client will have their own process box (as before) and plastic wallet with their own preferred resources, which would be chosen by the client for the duration of their therapy
- All boxes and wallets will be kept in the new creative therapies cupboard next to the sunflower room
- When working offsite, each client will have their own wallet of process resources which would, where possible, remain on site at the particular satellite provision
- Creative therapies staff can keep their own selection of surface wipes so that they can wipe down any surfaces before and after each session, wipes will be disposed of in the nearest bin.
- Creative therapy staff will also keep their own hand sanitiser which can be used by the therapist and client, as required.
- Creative therapy staff will introduce any additional mitigations they feel appropriate to reduce potential transmission and to introduce additional safety measures.
- Weather permitting, outdoor walking and talking therapy sessions can be the safest possible mode of delivery.

Risk assessment for Off-site sessions delivered by members of the Creative Therapies team:

- Creative Therapists will take an LFT on the day of a visit to another site and only visit if it is negative.
- Creative Therapists will have their temperatures taken before leaving for an off-site session. They be a potential re-test on arrival at the host site (if that is part of their organisation's COVID-19 practice).
- Creative Therapists will clean their resources before they leave St Nicholas School.
- Creative Therapy staff have had their initial C-19 vaccinations and are near to receiving the second dose.
- Creative Therapists will sanitise their hands before and after signing out from St Nicholas School.
- Creative Therapists will sanitise their hands on arrival.
- Creative Therapists will wear a face covering during their visits / sessions on site.
- Creative Therapists will clean the surrounding surfaces, including door handles, before use.
- Creative Therapists will clean the surfaces that they or their clients have touched, once the session is finished.
- Creative Therapists will sanitise their hands before and after signing out of the satellite host School.
- Creative Therapists will use a clean face covering before they enter St Nicholas School following a visit.
- Creative Therapists will sanitise their hands before and after signing back into St Nicholas School.
- Creative Therapists will clean and store their clients resources for at least 72 hours before he uses them again in line with C-19 guidelines.
- Creative Therapists will observe social 1M+ / 2M distancing, where possible.

Wellbeing team – the team will look at how the they can work differently:

- There will not be any home visits at this time,
- Parent support will be conducted remotely with information packs distributed.

**Risks posed by staff and pupils taking part in Independent Living Skills activities (e.g. travel training and 'the cottage' – see specific risk assessment for this programme.**

**Risks posed to/potentially created by the Specialist Teaching and Learning Service/Outreach**

## St Nicholas School Canterbury

See attached specific risk assessment for the STLS.

### SCHOOL ROUTINE/LOGISTICAL RISKS

Arrival to school –

A & F

- The vehicles will be asked to arrive from 8.45 to 8.55 (and from 8.55 for parents) – SLT and Site Management Staff will be in the car park and surrounding local area in high visibility to marshal traffic to ensure this time is closely monitored – with communication via 2-way radios. Priority for parking on-site will be given to Minibuses and large people carriers, with small taxis asked to wait out on the road. Transport staff will remain on their vehicle (until or unless they are asked to come into the school building; in this circumstance a face covering must be worn), hand hygiene regimes will be followed and the pupils will be taken to their classroom – unless they can safely make their own way to class. The staggering/limitation of entry to the primary and secondary areas of the school and the avoidance of a mass waiting area will mitigate the risk of transmission.

Parents bringing their own child(ren) to school should arrive from 9.00 for the drop off of their child to the dining hall (wearing a face covering) where they will be collected by class staff. They are to bring their car on-site once the buses leave, then they will be allowed to take their child to class, using the hand sanitiser on the way – unless their child can safely make their way to class.

A temperature check for all staff and students will be taken by the school nurse, admin manager or a member of the ELT, as appropriate at the start of the day – or by the school nurse/SLT/Satellite Lead if a person begins to feel unwell, due to potentially having symptoms of coronavirus.

B

- Students are to get out of their vehicles one at a time as directed by SLT, they will use hand sanitiser on entry then go straight to classroom as directed. A temperature check will be taken by the school leader during the school day. The ordinary timings for the 6<sup>th</sup> Form will be maintained. Face masks will be worn.

C - G

- Ordinary procedures on arrival (but with a potentially modified and staggered arrival time), parents are to follow the one way system once their children are dropped off. Face masks will be worn.

F

- at Canterbury academy site, students arrive between 8.30 and 8.45, greeted by designated member of staff and registered on the door. Students have temperature taken and then proceed to class. The arrival is staggered at this time naturally and smooth flow of traffic is assisted by boxed empty bay outside main entrance for turning. Face masks will be worn.

H

- Arrival will be from 9 am with only 1 parent/carer allowed to access the pre-school at a time, observing SD. Morning sessions will be from 9 - 11.45 am. Face masks will be worn.

Classroom activities – When sitting in a circle/semi-circle the group should be spaced wider than normal for our school – to allow for a 1m+/2m space between seats/pupils. Staff should sit behind the pupil (or a safe distance away to the side if supporting a student in seating equipment) where possible, when supervising to reduce the risk of close face to face contact – this includes with the leading staff member front (who may consider using a face shield subject to a risk assessment). Desks and tables should be organised into an SD layout, facing forward where possible / practicable, and sprayed down at the end of a session. Some classes may be laid out

## St Nicholas School Canterbury

in a forward-facing arrangement, if appropriate and effective, for the classes and/or pupil groups concerned. Staff will be prompted to wear a face covering in class where this is appropriate and manageable. Parents may want their child/pupils (who are not exempt) may choose to wear a face inside class, or within shared spaces, if this is practicable and makes the child safer – safe management cannot be assured though and this will not be enforced by staff.

Staff will be able to clock in and out, observing social distancing.

Departure from school –

### A & F

- Transport staff will remain in their vehicles until the students are ready to leave at 2.45 pm. The transport staff will be allowed to enter the building to collect primary pupils from the dining hall (or from class, if they are of secondary age). The Primary pupils going home on transport will get ready to go home from 2.40 pm and be taken down to the class waiting points at 2.45 pm (those going home with parents will wait in class – the supervising staff will be split to cover both areas).

Secondary pupils who are able to safely go to their own bus (where they will be supported by non-class based staff/SLT) will be allowed to do so – the vehicles concerned will be announced via the tannoy. The remainder of the pupils will be collected by their Passenger Assistant who must wear a face covering inside the school building.

The traffic in the car park and local area will be marshalled by the SLT using 2-way radios. Priority for parking on-site will be given to Minibuses and large people carriers, with small taxis asked to wait out on the road.

Parents who transport their own child(ren) will be asked to come on-site from 2.55 pm, once the buses have left and remain in their vehicle until asked to enter the building. All parents entering the school building must wear a face covering. Pupils from primary classes will be met in the dining hall, at this time, and secondary-aged pupils will be collected from class. Those pupils who can safely make their way to their parents will be allowed to do - the pupils will then be called out one at a time, via the tannoy.

The movement of small groups around the building, in a timely manner, will mitigate against the risk of large groups of people being forced to wait together in a confined area.

### B

- All drivers and/or PAs are to maintain their vehicles in a queue and wait outside observing SD. They will announce who they need through the office window, then the ELT member will go to the classes to collect the students, sending them out 1 vehicle at a time. 2.45pm collection. A shortened day due to lack of (outdoor) spaces, no break out areas and restricted access to main college campus – in hot weather, may be possible.

### C/E

- Ordinary school procedures – but follow one way systems.

### D

- Parents and passenger assistants can come directly to the side gate at 2.45 am to collect their children and not join the queue for the main site.

### E

- Students are collected from the site from 2.30 pm with students assembling in groups according to their transport requirements in groups 1-10. Taxis may collect students from each point to ensure the safe movement of children from school to bus in absence of hall or collection area. In wet weather, group numbers will be called from corridor



## St Nicholas School Canterbury

### G

- Ordinary school hours are being observed.

### H

- Departure will be from 3 pm with parents/carers to wait outside, observing SD, and their child will be taken out to them afternoon sessions will be from 12.15 – 3 pm.

### Moving around the building –

#### A - F, H

- Social distancing must be observed at all times (see corridors) and any one-way systems (where present) will be followed. Increased ventilation will be enabled. All unnecessary movement around the building is to be avoided, where possible, but (from 8 March) access to the sports halls are allowed, on a timetabled basis.

### G

- TBC in April 2021

### Meetings and liaison –

#### A, C - E

- All meetings should be planned to occur via digital means, no face to face meetings will take place on any site.

### Playtimes –

#### A

- AHTs have drawn up playground rotas with staggered timings to enabling as few groups to be present on the playtime as possible two groups will be outside for 2 x 10 mins outdoor breaks across the day (1 group in the MUGA † and 1 in the main area) across the day. THERE WILL BE NO SHARING OF PLAYTIMES BETWEEN THE DIFFERENT DEPARTMENTS, BREAKS WILL BE KEPT WITHIN KEYSTAGE/PHASE BUBBLES AND STRICTLY TO THE PLANNED TIMES (SEE ABOVE).

#### B

- Where possible playtimes will be limited to the class base; however the kitchen and rear decking area can be utilised on a rota basis by each 'bubble'. Each bubble will have access to ICT equipment within the class to enable some choice of activities. For the time being the leisure room will remain closed, however this will be reviewed and monitored on a weekly basis and led by the needs of the groups, where a further risk assessment will be conducted if the space is deemed required.

#### C

- The Chartham satellite classes will use the Tyre Zone of the main playground for break playtimes. Our staff and students will stay in their own bubble zones and keep away from the other pupils/staff – to reduce anxieties, as per request. They will be able to use the Tyre Zone and the Castle Zone at lunch playtimes.

#### D

- Hawking class will have their (lunch) break in a sectioned off area on the school field. Mercury class will be on the green area outside year 2.

#### E

- Access to a private outdoor space with new allocated benches, MUGA, Field and Market Garden.

#### F

- Students to exit via own classroom doors and congregate on field and maintain some social distancing from other bubbles on the site at break and at lunch, students should ensure they wash hands and use sanitiser upon reentry to the classroom.

## St Nicholas School Canterbury

G

- Puffins have access to their own outside space to allow free flow learning. Puffins are on a whole school rota for accessing the larger outside areas

H

- There will be a free flow of playtime

Lunch/break times –

A

- Infant pupils will only play in their particular outdoor space (with gates closed to limit movement between groups). There will be a timetable of the outdoor spaces, resources and times of the breaks for KS2 and secondary groups. Pupils will be supervised and we will make best attempts to keep them separate. The [classroom] rear garden areas, MUGA, large play equipment, swings, main area and sensory area will be timetabled to limit mixing and promote SD within the 'bubbles'. The spraying of outside play areas will happen once per day, after their final use, on a rota basis. Each class will be responsible for organising the disinfecting of smaller toys or (hand-held) equipment.

B

- As above 'playtimes' section. Please see above for 'dining hall' and 'specialist rooms' regarding risks around lunch times.

C/D/E/F

- As above 'playtimes' section. Please see above for 'dining hall' and 'specialist rooms' regarding risks around lunch times. **ALL PLAYTIMES ARE TO BE IN A DESIGNATED AREA.**

G/H

- Access to own outside area.

**Risks posed to staff groups/bubbles due to someone being or becoming unwell or unable to work (physical & emotional well-being) during a particular day or session** – *These situations will be planned for as and when they arise; decisions will be made in the best interests of the school, its staff and its pupils, as a whole, following a dynamic risk assessment. Staff may be required to go home to rest and recover from their illness (returning once well again); where staff have shown symptoms of COVID-19, they will be required to self-isolate but secure a test. They will remain at home until either a) a negative test is received, b) they receive a positive test but return once well again or after 10 days (whichever is longer); or were part of a bubble which closed and the appropriate self-isolation period is completed without them developing any symptoms. If necessary a class bubble may be forced to close if it cannot be safely and appropriately supervised to staff absence of illness, but may be maintained with the addition of available staff from other bubbles, provided that appropriate PPE is worn.*

Staff travelling to work – We would promote that staff, where possible, cycle or walk to their place of work. If staff are choosing to travel to work by car we do not recommend that they car share with people out of their household, to reduce the social distancing risks – if they choose to not follow this advice we would suggest that they consider travelling with a face mask on and open the car windows. If staff are travelling to work on public transport, we recommend that they use a face mask and observe social distancing rules.

### **Additional arrangements concerning Chartham Satellite**

- The pupils in Penguins and Polar bears will not have drink cups given out, the pupils will only drink from their own bottles.
- The pupils will stay in their taxis at the start of the day – they will be collected from the vehicle at 8.55am and be taken out to their transport at 2.55pm. Parents will drop off at 9.00 and collect from 3pm.
- The main entrance will be used at all times.

## St Nicholas School Canterbury

- Penguin class are having a daily well-being walk
- Bags are being brought into school to carry home school books and water bottles into/out of school.

Risk Significance:

| Risk category   | Initial Risk Significance | <u>Residual Risk Significance</u> |
|-----------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Not significant |                           |                                   |
| Low             |                           | <u>✓</u>                          |
| Moderate        |                           |                                   |
| High            |                           |                                   |
| Very High       | <u>✓</u>                  |                                   |

Action Required:

|            |  |          |
|------------|--|----------|
| Immediate  |  | <u>✓</u> |
| Short term |  |          |
| Long term  |  |          |

Actions to be taken by: St Nicholas School – Senior and Extended Leadership Teams, staff, pupils, parents/carers, Transport Staff and essential visitors/agents.

Date(s) Reviewed: 10 July 2020  
 7 August 2020  
 7 September 2020  
 21 September 2020  
 21 October 2020  
 5 November 2020  
 13 November 2020  
 30 November 2020  
 12 December 2020  
 23 December 2020  
 31 December 2020  
 4 January 2021  
 8 January 2021  
 31 January 2021

Planned Review Date: 24 February 2021, with a monthly re-assessment of action plan/protocols or when there is a significant change to national legislation or policy guidance taking place as and when required.

Assessment undertaken by: S J King, on behalf of (and in conjunction with all members of) the St Nicholas School Senior Leadership Team.