



REVISED RISK ASSESSMENT FROM MAY 2021

Location: Birkenhead Park School, CH43 4UY	Date assessment undertaken 21/06/21	Assessment undertaken by: Lyndsey Weekes
Activity or situation: Designation of Wirral as an Enhanced Support Area within the contingency framework from 21/06/2021.	Review date: on-going	Signature: <i>Lyndsey Weekes</i>

Overview

This Risk Assessment should be read in conjunction with the Risk Assessment dated 03.03.2021 and all control measures set out therein will continue. It reflects government guidance issued since 24 May 2021 : https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/950510/School_national_restrictions_guidance.pdf and <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak>

This Risk Assessment reflects the increase in infections in May 2021 and subsequent designation of the Wirral as an Enhanced Support Area within the contingency framework. This is to support the identification of the spread of variants of concern.

Following advice from Public Health England (PHE), from **Monday 25 January when individuals test positive for Covid using a LFD, this LFD result will trigger the legal duty to self-isolate and to engage with contact tracing.**

The in-house testing programme will continue to operate in accordance with guidance from PHE and the Health and Safety Executive, to ensure that the end to end health, safety and infection control risks for limited lateral flow testing have been identified and pre-assessed by the school. This asymptomatic rapid testing programme will be managed and monitored regularly by the Covid-19 Coordinator, Sarah Crosbie, and the SLT.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/947799/schools_and_schools_testing_handbook.pdf

All staff and students attending school in the Summer Term will continue to abide by all measures set out in this Risk Assessment and that of May 2021 as these measures create a safe environment where the risk of transmission of infection is substantially reduced. All staff and students must follow the system of controls which include continuing to observe good hand and respiratory hygiene including the re-introduction of wearing a face-mask in corridors, communal areas and classrooms; minimising contact between individuals and maintaining social distancing whenever possible ('Hands, Face, Space')

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

Area of Control	Control Measures	Any further action/ altered measures/ notes?	Implemented by: Initials
<p>System of controls: Preventative</p> <p>Asymptomatic testing programme</p> <p>To reduce the risk of transmission of the virus leading to ill health or potential death.</p>	<p>Testing school staff, students and visitors: General and clinical activities in the testing area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school will recruit a trained, testing workforce who will provide Lateral Flow Device (LFD) rapid tests which will produce a result in around 30 minutes. These are quick, safe and easy to use. • Staff and students will swab themselves following government guidance on how to do the test. There will be a trained person supervising them. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/946612/How to do your test COVID 19 instruction leaflet for schools.pdf. • If at any point a member of staff or a student tests positive, they will need to leave school and follow the self-isolation guidelines (currently 10 days). They will be advised to book a PCR test. https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/ • Students whom are over 16 can give consent to testing themselves but should discuss their participation with a parent or guardian first. • This rapid testing programme will further reduce the risk of transmission and it is implemented in addition to the usual control measures such as washing hands regularly, face coverings and social distancing ('Hands, Face, Space'). • From march 2021 onwards, a small group of students have access to the ATS if they have been identified as unlikely to manage home testing. • The school is not, for the time being, expected to test on a daily basis any student or member of staff who has come into contact with a person who has tested positive in their contact group. • Staff and students who have been in 'close contact' with a Covid positive case will be required to self-isolate and book a PCR test. • All staff and students have been advised in advance not to attend school if they have any symptoms of COVID 19, or live with someone who is showing symptoms of COVID 19 (including a fever and/or new persistent cough) or if they have returned within 14 days from a part of the world affected by the virus or have been in close contact with someone who is displaying symptoms. • Prominent signage reminding all staff and students not to attend if they have symptoms of coronavirus is displayed at the entrance to the school. 		<p>SLT</p> <p>SLT</p> <p>SLT</p> <p>SLT</p> <p>SLT</p> <p>SLT</p> <p>SLT</p> <p>Covid Testing Team</p> <p>Covid Testing Team</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face coverings/masks are to be worn by staff and students at all times during the testing process except for brief lowering at time of swabbing. • Requirement to wear face covering/mask to be reminded to all subjects in advance at time of testing. • Compliance with wearing of face covering/mask of all staff and students who are tested, with the exception of exemptions, will be visually checked on arrival by the Covid Testing Team. • Compliance with wearing of face covering/mask of all subjects to be visually checked through the building by all other staff. • Hand hygiene: All staff/students to use hand sanitiser provided on arrival & adherence to this enforced by Covid Testing team. • Social distancing: Two metre social distancing to be maintained between Staff and students who are tested. • A one-way flow of subjects through the Covid Testing site will be initiated and maintained at all times. Compliance with this is to be ensured by the Covid Testing Team. • Cleaning: Regular cleaning of the site including wipe down of all potential touchpoints in accordance with PHE guidance. • No physical handling of documents to staff and students except barcodes and LFD test kits. 		<p>Covid Testing Team</p> <p>Covid Testing Team</p> <p>Covid Testing Team</p> <p>Covid Testing Team</p> <p>Premises Team</p>
<p>System of controls: Preventative</p> <p>Asymptomatic rapid testing programme</p> <p>To reduce the risk of transmission of the virus leading to ill health or potential death among the Covid Testing Team</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Covid Testing Team have completed the relevant on-line training modules for their specified role and are familiar with the 'Schools and Schools Handbook' and the 'How To Guide'. • The testing site has non-porous flooring and is well lit with good air flow. • Staff and students will maintain a 2m distance with staff on the registration desk • All staff and students who are being tested will maintain one-way direction of travel. • Each swabbing/sample collection bay is a minimum of 2m apart. • Each swabbing/sample collection bay has a processing desk close by-no more than 1m. All processing desks are more than 2m apart. The recording desk is at least 2m away from the processing desks. • There is a clear division between the swabbing and processing areas which is clearly demarcated and test subjects must not enter the processing area. • Each swabbing/sample collection bay is cleaned by the test subject following the test using disinfectant wipes/disposable cloth and spray provided. • All surfaces that the test subject has come into contact with must be cleaned and disinfected, including all potentially contaminated and frequently touched areas such as a chair or mirror. 		<p>SLT</p> <p>Premises Team</p> <p>Covid Testing Team</p> <p>Premises Team</p> <p>Premises Team</p> <p>Covid Testing Team</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disposable wipes/cloths or paper roll/disposable mop heads with disinfectant spray will be used to clean all hard surfaces, floors, chairs, door handles and cleaners will work on the principle of one site, one wipe, in one direction. • Any wipes, cloths, roll and disposable mop heads used for cleaning must be disposed of and should be placed in the clinical waste bins. • If there is a spillage on a testing site, which could include vomit or bodily fluids, the surrounding area must be evacuated and cleaned immediately and cleaning staff must change their gloves and apron after cleaning a spillage. • The lab test kit contains chemical components which do not have any hazard labels associated with them and the manufacturer states that there are no hazards anticipated under conditions of use as described in other product literature. • When handling the lab test kit, appropriate PPE will be supplied which includes nitrile gloves which meet the Regulation (EU) 2016/425 and these are to be used at all times when handling the extraction solution. Safety glasses with side shields which are tested and approved under appropriate government standards to be worn at all times when handling the extraction solution. Impervious clothing to be worn to protect the body from splashes or spillages. • From an environmental protection perspective, the Covid Testing Team will not let product from the lab testing kit enter drains. • Any spillages of lab test kit solution will be wiped from surfaces and the cleaning materials disposed of in line with the lab's waste disposal procedures • The lab testing kits will not be used if the solution has expired • Training will be provided in handling potentially biohazardous samples, chemicals and good lab practice. Adhere to guidelines in these training procedures will be monitored to prevent improper handling. • The Covid Testing Team will be provided with the appropriate PPE for their role. • The Team Leader will be supplied with a fluid resistant surgical mask. • The Processor will be provided with a fluid resistant surgical mask; disposable gloves (changed after each sample); disposable plastic apron and eye protection. • The Testing Assistant will be provided with a fluid resistant surgical mask. If only supervising, they will not need to wear apron, gloves and visor but will be provided with immediate access to disposable gloves if they are required to touch any component of the test kit. • The Covid 19 Coordinator will be provided with a fluid resistant surgical mask. • The Results Recorder will be provided with a fluid resistant surgical mask and disposable gloves. • The Registration Assistant will be supplied with a fluid resistant surgical mask. 		<p>Covid Testing Cleaner</p> <p>Covid Testing Cleaner</p> <p>Covid Testing Cleaner</p> <p>Covid Testing Cleaner</p> <p>Covid Testing Team</p> <p>Covid Testing Supervisor</p> <p>Covid Testing Team</p> <p>Covid Testing Team</p> <p>Covid Testing Supervisor</p> <p>Covid Testing Supervisor</p> <p>Covid Testing Supervisor</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Cleaner will be supplied with a fluid resistant surgical mask; disposable gloves; disposable plastic apron and eye protection. • PPE will be changed whenever staff members leave and re-enter the test site area or if protective properties are compromised or contaminated. • In terms of ensuring correct result communication, 2 identical barcodes are provided to each test subject at check in and that test subject registers their details to a unique ID barcode before conducting the test. • Barcodes are attached by trained staff at the sample collection bay and are checked for congruence at the Processing desk. • If a barcode is damaged or an LFD lost or there is a failed scan of a barcode or if results are not received within one hour of registration, test subjects will be recalled for a retest. • From delivery of PPE and test kits from 8am on Monday 4 January 2021, equipment will be received and stored securely by a designated member of staff. • Equipment and test materials will be handled by the Premises Team who will move large stocks as required following basic manual handling training. 		<p>Covid Testing Supervisor</p> <p>Covid Testing Supervisor</p> <p>Covid Testing Supervisor</p> <p>Covid Testing Supervisor</p> <p>Covid Testing Supervisor</p> <p>Covid Testing Supervisor</p> <p>Premises Team</p>
<p>System of controls:</p> <p>Response to any infection</p> <p>Contact with someone suffering from coronavirus</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school will ensure understanding of management of a confirmed case and follow latest PHE guidance and the NHS test and trace process • If anyone in the school becomes unwell with a new and persistent cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they will be sent home and advised to follow guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection, which sets out that they should self-isolate for that day and the following 10 full days and should arrange to have a test to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19). • Other members of their household (including any siblings) should self-isolate starting from the day the individual's symptoms started (or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms, whether this was an LFD or PCR test), and the next 10 full days. • School has ensured staff and the parents/carers of students understand that they must be ready & willing to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Book a PCR test if they are displaying symptoms or are identified as a close contact. ○ Provide details of close contacts if they test positive for coronavirus COVID 19 or asked by NHS test & Trace. ○ Self-isolate if they have been in close contact with anyone who tests positive, or of someone in their household has symptoms, or if they or someone in their household has travelled from abroad. 		<p>SLT</p> <p>SLT</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the situation is not straightforward and school needs help in making an assessment of close contacts they will ring the DfE Helpline on 0800 046 8687 option 1 or email Alison Simpson or Jane Harvey. • All staff, students and any persons likely to come onto the school site will be informed that they must not come into school if they are displaying any symptoms of Coronavirus but should arrange to be tested immediately at a local test centre: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance • If a symptomatic person comes into school, they will be sent home immediately and isolated in the designated First Aid Room until they can be picked up. 999 will be called if they are seriously ill. • In the case of a symptomatic student who needs to be supervised before being picked up by their parent/carer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They will be isolated in the designated First Aid Room with an open window for ventilation • If they need to use a bathroom whilst awaiting collection, they will use the toilet on the main staircase which will be cleaned and disinfected before being used by anyone else. • If a distance of 2m can't be maintained, supervising staff will wear a fluid-resistant surgical mask • If contact is necessary, supervising staff will also wear disposable gloves and a disposable apron • If there is a risk of splashing to the eyes, such as from coughing, spitting or vomiting, supervising staff will also wear eye protection • Supervising staff will wash their hands thoroughly for 20 seconds after the student has been picked up. • A deep clean will take place in the areas that the symptomatic person has been in, and PPE will be disposed of properly, following decontamination guidance: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings • If the school becomes aware that a student or a staff member has tested positive for coronavirus, the school will follow the guidance in relation to early outbreak management: https://www.gov.uk/health-protection-team • To help with this, records (including seating plans) will be kept of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The students and staff • Any close contact that takes place between students and staff in different groups • Close contact means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Direct close contact – face-to-face contact with an infected person for any length of time, within 1 metre, including: 		<p>SLT</p> <p>First Aiders</p> <p>First Aiders</p> <p>First-Aiders</p> <p>Premises Team</p> <p>SLT</p> <p>SLT</p>
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