

Russell Street School - RISK ASSESSMENT – Full Opening – January 2022

Assessment date: 03.01.22

Name of Assessor: D Robinson

Task/Activity	Recommended System of Controls	School Actions/ Control Measures https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/schools-covid-19-operational-guidance https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-local-restrictions-in-education-and-childcare-settings https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/step-4-update-what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges	RISK LEVEL	Are Existing Controls Adequate?																															
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Full opening of all classes – January 2022	<p>Schools COVID-19 Operational Guidance – Dec 21 states: 'We no longer recommend that it is necessary to keep children in consistent groups (bubbles). - Based on infection rates, we will cross within a year group, but not across different year groups.</p>	<p>THIS RISK ASSESSMENT IS TO READ ALONGSIDE – OUTBREAK MANAGEMENT PLAN & HOME LEARNING PLAN</p> <p>Attendance figures for pupils and staff in 2020/2021 were the highest recorded in over 5 years. This positively impacted on attainment and well-being. Whilst we no longer need to operate class bubbles, this risk assessment is written to meet new operational guidance as well as maintain the positive lessons learned through measures implemented over the past 18 months.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Year Group bubbles will remain – these have had no detrimental effect on educational provision, with children mixing effectively for phonics and reading groups. 2. Apart from the HT and DHT and Reading Lead, staff will continue to work within their year group only wherever possible. 3. Any staff absence/cover will come from within the year group and should be arranged by year group leads. 4. Face masks should be worn by all staff and adults (including visitors) when moving around in corridors and communal areas. 5. PPE equipment is needed when caring for children with intimate care plans or caring for a child who displays COVID symptoms. 6. Where frequently held meetings are possible virtually rather than face-to-face, these should continue to be held. <p>School attendance: School attendance in mandatory for all pupils of compulsory school age.</p> <p>All clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) children and young people should attend school unless they are one of the very small number of children and young people under paediatric or other specialist care who have been advised by their clinician or other specialist not to attend.</p> <p>Where a child is required to self-isolate or quarantine because of COVID-19 in accordance with relevant legislation or guidance published by PHE or the DHSC they should be recorded as code X – with the various associated codes below:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Subcode</th> <th>Description</th> <th>Attendance session code</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>I01</td> <td>Illness</td> <td>I</td> </tr> <tr> <td>I02</td> <td>Illness Confirmed case of coronavirus (COVID-19)</td> <td>I</td> </tr> <tr> <td>X01</td> <td>Non compulsory school age pupil not required to be in school</td> <td>X</td> </tr> <tr> <td>X02</td> <td>Pupil self-isolating with coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms</td> <td>X</td> </tr> <tr> <td>X03</td> <td>Pupil self-isolating due to potential contact with a confirmed case of coronavirus (COVID-19) INSIDE the school setting</td> <td>X</td> </tr> <tr> <td>X04</td> <td>Pupil self-isolating due to potential contact with a confirmed case of coronavirus (COVID-19) OUTSIDE the school setting</td> <td>X</td> </tr> <tr> <td>X05</td> <td>Pupils required to self-isolate as part of quarantine requirement (after arriving in the UK from a non-exempt country or territory)</td> <td>X</td> </tr> <tr> <td>X06</td> <td>Pupil not in school because they have been advised specifically by their Doctor or public health authority that they are clinically extremely vulnerable and should not attend</td> <td>X</td> </tr> <tr> <td>X07</td> <td>Pupil advised specifically not to attend school as part of restrictions to education set out in Government advice</td> <td>X</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Subcode	Description	Attendance session code	I01	Illness	I	I02	Illness Confirmed case of coronavirus (COVID-19)	I	X01	Non compulsory school age pupil not required to be in school	X	X02	Pupil self-isolating with coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms	X	X03	Pupil self-isolating due to potential contact with a confirmed case of coronavirus (COVID-19) INSIDE the school setting	X	X04	Pupil self-isolating due to potential contact with a confirmed case of coronavirus (COVID-19) OUTSIDE the school setting	X	X05	Pupils required to self-isolate as part of quarantine requirement (after arriving in the UK from a non-exempt country or territory)	X	X06	Pupil not in school because they have been advised specifically by their Doctor or public health authority that they are clinically extremely vulnerable and should not attend	X	X07	Pupil advised specifically not to attend school as part of restrictions to education set out in Government advice	X	L	Yes	
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		Where they are unable to attend because they have a confirmed case of COVID-19 they should be recorded as code I (illness). For pupils abroad, who are unable to return, code X is unlikely to apply. In some specific cases, code Y (unable to attend due to exceptional circumstances) will apply. Further guidance about the use of codes is provided in the school attendance guidance . All pupils travelling to England must adhere to travel legislation , details of which are set out in government travel advice .			
Classroom / School Organisation	Minimise risk of infection.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> All classes will be taught in a well-ventilated space. Newts have moved to the Library and Owls have moved to the studio as both of these rooms have windows that can be opened for ventilation purposes. Extensive building works have taken place in the nursery setting to create a well ventilated, enabling environment. Children in Years 1 and 2 will sit on forward facing desks. Assemblies will take place in year groups. On P.E. days children will come to school wearing their P.E. kits. One-way circulation will remain in place where possible. All areas of school should all be as ventilated as possible. Where possible non-fire doors should be left open to reduce the amount of contact with doors and improve ventilation (HSE) Lockers have been purchased for all children apart from Nursery (who work as one consistent bubble) to ensure that the personal belongings of children in different classes are not mixing and are not kept in the open (HSE). 	L	Yes	
Other Support - Volunteers	Volunteers may be used to support the work of the school.	It is important that volunteers are properly supported and are given appropriate roles. The checking and risk assessment process in the volunteer section of keeping children safe in education must be completed before any volunteer works in school. Mixing of volunteers across groups should be kept to a minimum, and they should adhere to the system of controls in place.	L	Yes	
Tracing close contacts and isolation	SEE ALSO OUTBREAK MANAGEMENT PLAN	<p>Close contacts in schools are now identified by NHS Test and Trace and we are no longer be expected to undertake contact tracing.</p> <p>As with positive cases in any setting, NHS Test and Trace will work with the positive case and/or their parent to identify close contacts. Contacts from schools will only be traced by NHS Test and Trace where the positive case or their parent specifically identifies the individual as being a close contact. This is likely to be a small number of individuals who would be most at risk of contracting COVID-19 due to the nature of the close contact. We may be contacted in exceptional cases to help with identifying close contacts, as currently happens in managing other infectious diseases.</p> <p>From 14 December 2021, adults who are fully vaccinated and all children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 are strongly advised to take a LFD test every day for 7 days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result.</p> <p>Daily testing of close contacts applies to all contacts who are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> fully vaccinated adults – people who have had 2 doses of an approved vaccine all children and young people aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, regardless of their vaccination status people who are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons people taking part, or have taken part, in an approved clinical trial for a COVID-19 vaccine <p>Children under 5 years are exempt from self-isolation and do not need to take part in daily testing of close contacts.</p> <p>Pupils with SEND identified as close contacts should be supported by their school and their families to agree the most appropriate route for testing including, where appropriate, additional support to assist swabbing. For further information please see SEND guidance.</p> <p>We will continue to have a role in working with health protection teams in the case of a local outbreak. If there is a substantial increase in the number of positive cases in a setting (see Stepping measures up and down section for more information) or if central government offers the area an enhanced response package, a director of public health might advise a setting to temporarily reintroduce some control measures</p>	L	Yes	
Face coverings	Minimise risk of infection.	<p>Face coverings should be worn by staff and adults (including visitors) when moving around in corridors and communal areas.</p> <p>Health advice continues to be that children in primary schools should not be asked to wear face coverings.</p> <p>We have a supply of face coverings available for people who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> are struggling to access a face covering are unable to use their face covering as it has become damp, soiled or unsafe 			

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		<p>THIS RISK ASSESSMENT IS TO READ ALONGSIDE – OUTBREAK MANAGEMENT PLAN & HOME LEARNING PLAN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have forgotten their face covering <p>Safe wearing and removal of face coverings When wearing a face covering, staff and visitors should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wash their hands thoroughly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser before putting a face covering on • avoid touching the part of the face covering in contact with the mouth and nose, as it could be contaminated with the virus • change the face covering if it becomes damp or if they've touched the part of the face covering in contact with the mouth and nose • avoid taking it off and putting it back on a lot in quick succession to minimise potential contamination <p>When removing a face covering, staff and visitors should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wash their hands thoroughly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser before removing • only handle the straps, ties or clips • not give it to someone else to use • if single-use, dispose of it carefully in a household waste bin and do not recycle • once removed, store reusable face coverings in a plastic bag until there is an opportunity to wash them. • if reusable, wash it in line with manufacturer's instructions at the highest temperature appropriate for the fabric • wash their hands thoroughly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser once removed 			
Staff who are clinically vulnerable	Attendance/social distancing measures.	<p>Following expert clinical advice and the successful rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine programme, people previously considered to be particularly vulnerable, clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV), and high or higher-risk are not being advised to shield again. Children and young people who were previously identified as being in one of these groups, are advised to continue to follow the guidance contained in Coronavirus: how to stay safe and help prevent the spread.</p> <p>Children and young people previously considered CEV should attend school and should follow the same COVID-19 guidance as the rest of the population. In some circumstances, a child or young person may have received personal advice from their specialist or clinician on additional precautions to take and they should continue to follow that advice.</p>	L	Yes	
Pregnancy	Assess risks	A workplace risk assessment should be completed to help to identify any additional actions that needs to be taken to mitigate risks.	L	Yes	
Control Measures	<p>Ensure good hygiene for everyone.</p> <p>Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes.</p> <p>Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.</p> <p>Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.</p>	<p>1. Ensure good hygiene for everyone <u>Hand hygiene</u> Frequent and thorough hand cleaning is now regular practice. We will continue to ensure that pupils clean their hands regularly. This can be done with soap and water or hand sanitiser.</p> <p><u>Respiratory hygiene</u> The 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach will continue to be very important. (The-Bug COVID-19 website contains free resources for you, including materials to encourage good hand and respiratory hygiene).</p> <p><u>Use of personal protective equipment (PPE)</u> Most staff will not require PPE beyond what they would normally need for their work. The guidance on the use of PPE in education, childcare and children's social care settings provides more information on the use of PPE for COVID-19.</p> <p>2. Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes, using standard products such as detergents An appropriate cleaning schedule will be maintained and monitored closely by the site supervisor. This will include regular cleaning of areas and equipment (for example, twice per day), with a particular focus on frequently touched surfaces.</p> <p>The site manager will follow PHE guidance on the cleaning of non-healthcare settings.</p> <p>3. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated When the school is in operation, everyone needs to ensure the building is well ventilated and that a comfortable teaching environment is maintained.</p>	L	Yes	

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		<p>Poorly ventilated spaces have been identified and we have taken steps to improve fresh air flow by moving classes (Newts & Owls), as well as giving particular consideration when holding events where visitors such as parents are on site, for example, school plays.</p> <p>Opening external windows will take place to improve natural ventilation, and in addition, opening internal doors will take place to assist with creating a throughput of air. If necessary, external opening doors may also be used (if they are not fire doors and where safe to do so).</p> <p>We will balance the need for increased ventilation while maintaining a comfortable temperature.</p> <p><i>DfE is working with Public Health England, NHS Test and Trace, and the Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE) on a pilot project to measure CO2 levels in classrooms and exploring options to help improve ventilation in settings where needed.</i></p> <p>4. Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19 <u>When an individual develops COVID-19 symptoms or has a positive test.</u> Pupils, staff and other adults should follow public health advice on when to self-isolate and what to do. They should not come into school if they have symptoms, have had a positive test result or other reasons requiring them to stay at home due to the risk of them passing on COVID-19 (for example, they are required to quarantine).</p> <p>If anyone in your school develops COVID-19 symptoms, however mild, they will be sent home and they should follow public health advice.</p> <p>For everyone with symptoms, they should avoid using public transport and, wherever possible, be collected by a member of their family or household.</p> <p>If a pupil is awaiting collection, they should be left in a room on their own if possible and safe to do so. A window should be opened for fresh air ventilation if possible. Appropriate PPE should also be used if close contact is necessary. Any rooms they use should be cleaned after they have left.</p> <p>The household (including any siblings) should follow the PHE stay at home guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection.</p> <p>Asymptomatic testing Testing remains important in reducing the risk of transmission of infection within schools. Staff should continue to test twice weekly at home, with lateral flow device (LFD) test kits, 3-4 days apart. Testing remains voluntary but is strongly encouraged. We will ask parents and other visitors to take a lateral flow device (LFD) test before entering the school.</p> <p>There is no need for primary age pupils (those in year 6 and below) to regularly test, unless they have been identified as a contact for someone who has tested positive for Covid-19 and therefore advised to take lateral flow tests every day for 7 days.</p> <p>Confirmatory PCR tests Staff and pupils with a positive LFD test result should self-isolate in line with the stay at home guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection. They will also need to get a free PCR test to check if they have COVID-19. Whilst awaiting the PCR result, the individual should continue to self-isolate.</p> <p>If the PCR test is taken within 2 days of the positive lateral flow test, and is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD test and the pupil can return to school, as long as the individual doesn't have COVID-19 symptoms.</p>			

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School Meals	Benefits-related free school meals	School kitchens should follow the guidance for food businesses on coronavirus (COVID-19). Benefit related free school meal support for pupils who are eligible should be provided whether they are learning at home during term time.	L	Yes	
Educational visits		A full and thorough risk assessment in relation to all educational visits should be undertaken and ensure that any public health advice, such as hygiene and ventilation requirements, is included as part of that risk assessment. <u>General guidance</u> about educational visits is available and is supported by specialist advice from the <u>Outdoor Education Advisory Panel (OEAP)</u> .	L	Yes	
Other measures	Precautionary measures should be considered before any of the following take place.	Open days Transition taster days Parental attendance in settings Live performances in settings	L	Yes	
Remote education	See separate plan.	Remote education provided should be equivalent in length to the core teaching pupils would receive in school.			