RISK ASSESSMENT FORM	Ref Number: RASept21.V1	
Establishment: Oldham Primary / Secondary School [Insert Name of School]	Assessment by: Diane Brown	<b>Date:</b> 31.8.21
Task / Process Being Assessed: School opening to students and staff during coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic from September 2021	Approved by: P Stennett	Date: 1.9.21



#### Scope

This is a generic risk assessment example for schools opening to students and staff during coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic from September 2021. It can be used as a guide to think through some of the hazards in your school and the steps you need to take to control the risks. It is not intended to cover all scenarios and each Headteacher should consider their own unique circumstances. More specific assessments may be required for those who are clinically vulnerable staff or SEND students

#### **Guidance documents**

This risk assessment has been informed by the most up-to date Government guidance for schools and other educational settings at the time of writing. It should be read alongside the DfE guidance 'Schools COVID 19 Operational Guidance (Updated July 2021). This guidance is available <a href="here">here</a>.

Other helpful guidance documents for schools:

- Actions for schools during the Coronavirus outbreak Available here and to be referenced throughout the risk assessment.
- Shielding the extremely vulnerable Available <u>here</u>
- Households with COVID-19 Available here
- Safe working in education, childcare and children's social care settings, including the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) Available here
- **EYFS** Available here
- Actions for Early Years Providers- Available here
- SEND Available here
- Holiday or after school clubs guidance available here
- Cleaning in Schools Available <u>here</u>
- Safe Travel Available here

### **Overarching Principals**

Within its operational guidance the Government as set out some key areas for consideration to control the spread of COVID 19 in schools which has formed the basis of this risk assessment. These are:-

- Ensuring good hygiene for everyone
- Maintaining appropriate cleaning regimes
- Keeping occupied spaces well ventilated
- Following public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID 19.

### **Symptoms of COVID-19**

Covid-19 is an illness that can affect your lungs and airways. Symptoms can be mild, moderate, severe or fatal.

#### DO NOT LEAVE HOME IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU LIVE WITH HAS EITHER:

- a high temperature this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

These are the main symptoms of coronavirus. If you have these symptoms, you must not leave home and seek advice regarding self-isolation.

## **Risk Assessment**

What are hazards thealth, sa and the environm (e.g. heav fuel delive	o afety nent? /y box,	Who or what might be harmed and how? (e.g. staff, visitors, etc)	Likelihood (1 – 5)	Severity (1 – 5)	Risk Rating (L x S)	What is already in place?	Is there any further action required?	Action by who?	Action by when?	Date completed
Getting o spreading COVID 19 following health ad testing, s isolation managing confirmed of COVID	g by not public vice on elf- and g d cases	Staff/Vulnera ble staff pupils and visitors may become infected and suffer ill health from exposure to COVID-19	3	3	9	Extra consideration given to people at higher risk and to workers facing mental and physical health difficulties. Those who are clinically extremely vulnerable are no longer advised to shield however school will continue to support these workers by discussing with them their individual needs and supporting them in taking any additional precautions advised by their clinicians.  Individual discussions and risk assessments to be completed for vulnerable staff.  Pupils, staff and other adults to follow public health advice on when to self-isolate and what to do. They will 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)	Headteacher to discuss concerns with vulnerable members of staff and review how they are deployed to enable them to work as safely as possible  Advice for those who are vulnerable, including pregnant women available here and here  HSE guidance on protecting vulnerable workers found here	Headteacher	6.9.21	6.9.21
						Any staff member developing coronavirus symptoms, however mild, are advised to not come to school and remain at home until they have received the results of a test. Where testing positive, staff to follow latest government guidance on self-isolation.	All staff to be reminded of expectations on staff training days	Headteacher / SBM	6.9.21	6.9.21

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Staff/visitors developing a new continual cough or a high temperature whilst at school or a loss/change in sense of smell/ taste must be sent home and advised to book a test and follow the guidance <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a> .  Those who live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 symptoms, or with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 to follow guidance <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>				
Pupils  All CEV pupils and students will attend their education setting 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 Any child developing coronavirus symptoms will be sent home or parents/carers asked to collect them (avoiding public transport where possible) Parents will be advised to book a test for the child and follow public health advice.	Discuss concerns with vulnerable pupils and parents / guardians and communicate school COVID secure controls to provide assurance transmission risk is lowered.	Head / Deputy / SBM	6.9.21	6.9.21
If a Child needs to be sent home after exhibiting symptoms, they will be asked to wait in in a separate room (SBM Office) by the window, where they can be isolated behind a closed door, depending on their age and needs with adult supervision. Windows in the room will be opened for ventilation. Where this is not possible the child will be taken to any area where they can remain 2m apart from others (Library or Hall if not being used – supervision by TA or office staff). Such individuals will be monitored by a member of staff. If a child needs to use the bathroom whilst waiting to be collected, they will use a separate bathroom if possible (staff toilets). This	Quarantine rooms: 1. SBM Office by the window 2. Library 3. Hall Staff Toilets	SBM Office staff	ongoing	ongoing

bathroom will be cleaned and disinfected with standard cleaning products before being used by anyone else.  PPE to be worn by staff caring for the child while they await collection if a distance of 2 metres cannot be maintained (such as for a very young child or a child with complex needs). PPE guidance found here will be followed  After use, the quarantine room will be cleaned by cleaning or site staff using normal proprietary cleaning products and recommended PPE in line with cleaning guidance found here.  If a member of staff has helped someone with symptoms, they do not need to go home unless they develop symptoms themselves (and in which case, a test will take place) or the child subsequently tests positive and the staff member is contacted by test and trace. Member of staff will wash their hands thoroughly for 20 seconds after any contact with someone who is unwell. Cleaning the affected area with normal household disinfectant after someone with symptoms has left will reduce the risk of passing the infection on to other people.  Where a child, young person or staff	SBM to save letters on Office	D Brown	2.9.21
member <b>tests</b> positive, school to send 'warn and inform' letter to possible close contacts  Testing	Shared drive	D BIOWII	2.9.21
Asymptomatic testing advised for all staff whenever they are on site (at least until government review at the end of September)			
Pupils ( secondary schools) tested in line			

					with government guidance- Here  Compulsory mask wearing may be implemented if cases rise in school or in the community.				
Hand Washing Inadequate hand washing facilities and regimes	All building users including staff, pupils, visitors, cleaners, contractors,	3	3	9	Sufficient handwashing facilities are available throughout school. Where a sink is not nearby, hand sanitiser provided in classrooms and other learning environments (not to be used in the science labs due to increased fire risks).  Hand sanitiser only used where sinks are	Ensure all sinks have necessary stock & restock as required.  Sanitise sinks regularly with appropriate cleaning chemicals	Caretaker / cleaning staff  Caretaker / Cleaning staff	2.9.21 & ongoing 2.9.21 & ongoing	Ongoing
	and vulnerable groups may become infected and suffer ill health from exposure to COVID-19				not available.  Hand sanitisers only be used under close supervision for younger children Small children and pupils with complex needs will continue to be helped to clean their hands properly. Skin friendly skin cleaning wipes can be used as an alternative		All staff	ongoing	Ongoing
	COVID-19				All school building users reminded to frequently wash their hands with soap and water for 20 seconds and dry thoroughly. This includes including before leaving home, on arrival at the premises and before and after:  - eating/drinking - coughing or sneezing - using the toilet - handling cleaning chemicals.	Ensure all attending understand how to wash hands correctly – refresh guidance found here	All Staff	2.9.21 & ongoing	Ongoing
					Hand washing and hygiene routines built into school culture, supported by behaviour expectations and helping ensure younger children and those with complex needs understand the need to follow them  Help will be provided to children and young				

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people who have trouble cleaning their				
hands independently.				
Hand weeking guidenes found have	Doctor oround the seheel se	Corotolian	2.0.24	24 0 24
Hand washing guidance found here	Poster around the school as	Caretaker	2.9.21	31.8.21
circulated amongst all staff / pupils.	appropriate. – already in place			
Hygiene stations at locations through the				
school with instructions on their use				
including disposable tissues available in				
each classroom for both staff and pupils.				
caon diaggroom for both stain and papils.				
Posters displayed throughout school to				
remind everyone of public health advice -				
including not to touch face (eyes, mouth,				
nose) with hands that are not clean.				
·				
Sinks and toilets regularly sanitised and bins				
for tissues are emptied throughout the day.				
Normal personal hygiene and washing of				
clothes following a day in school setting				
encouraged. Uniforms do not need any				
more washing than normal.				
012" 1 "				
Staff and pupils encouraged to practice				
good respiratory hygiene - sneeze into a				
tissue or sleeve and not into hands. Used				
tissues to be put in a bin immediately and				
wash hands immediately after. 'Catch it. Bin it. Kill it.'				
II. KIII II.				
Staff working with pupils who spit				
uncontrollably offered more opportunities to				
wash hands & can wear PPE.				
Pupils and students who use saliva as a				
sensory stimulant or who struggle with				
'catch it, kill it, bin it' given more				
opportunities to wash hands,				
Consideration given to those with complex				
needs who may need additional support to				

					clean hands or ensure good respiratory hygiene.				
Cleaning Inadequate cleaning regime	All building users including staff, pupils,	3	3	9	Government cleaning advice found <a href="here">here</a> . implemented throughout school premises. This includes a generally enhanced cleaning regime, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often using standard	Carry out inventory check of cleaning products and stock at regular intervals, restocking proportionately as necessary.	Caretaker	Ongoing	Ongoing
	visitors, cleaners, contractors, and vulnerable groups may become infected and suffer ill health from exposure COVID-19				products, such as detergents and bleach.  Cleaning regimes and responsibilities are clarified in with relevant staff / organisations. (External organisations providing FM/cleaning services should be sure to define these responsibilities).  Regular check of stocks of cleaning chemicals, liquid soap, paper towels, tissues, toilet roll, bin bags etc. Request additional supplies as necessary.	Water fountain to remain out of use but continue to flush as part of cleaning/water risk assessment	Caretaker	Ongoing	Ongoing
					Hand sanitiser at locations through the school. Cleaning with usual cleaning products will continue, with regular daily cleaning of highly used areas including:  - door handles  - door plates  - bannisters  - desks  - chairs  - taps and sinks  - telephones  - keyboards  - light switches  - electronic entry systems  - vonding machines  - toys	Continue with extra sanitisation of communal areas – school reception / stair banisters / library / conservatory / staff room / pupil & staff toilets. Acorns & Nursery to be cleaned after am session & again at end of day. All other classrooms cleaned at beginning or end of day.	SBM / Caretaker / Cleaners	Ongoing	Ongoing
					Bins for tissues are lined and emptied throughout the day. Liner is sealed/knotted				

					and placed in the main waste container.				
					If lights are not on automatic sensor staff instructed to leave them on throughout the day.	Remind staff	SBM	2.9.21	
Ventilation Poor ventilation	All building users including staff, pupils, visitors, cleaners, contractors, and vulnerable groups may become infected and suffer ill health from exposure COVID-19	3	3	9	All spaces will be well ventilated using natural ventilation (opening windows) or ventilation units where possible.  Doors will be propped open, where safe to do so (taking into consideration fire safety and safeguarding), to limit use of door handles and aid ventilation.  Poorly ventilated areas identified, and steps taken to improve fresh air flow in these areas  Particular attention paid to ventilation when holding events where visitors such as parents are on site (e.g. school plays)  Balance needed for ventilation whilst maintaining comfortable temperature, for example in cooler months windows opened slightly and opened more fully at break times in order to purge the air.  Rooms with no opening windows to keep doors open and / or minimise use and number of people in the room.	Classroom doors can be closed at teacher's discretion – staff room & corridor doors to remain propped open.  Regularly review any doors being propped open to ensure they do not pose significant fire spread risk / safeguarding issue.  Following fire drill sept 21 – hall double doors to be kept closed during the day.  Individual room RA can be carried out if requested.	All staff SBM / site manager All staff	Ongoing 2.9.21 7.9.21 ongoing	Ongoing 31.8.21 7.9.21 ongoing
Social Distancing Inappropriate pupil / staff mixing and	All building users including staff, pupils, visitors,	3	3	9	Although 'bubbles' are no longer required, outbreak management plan will cover the possibility that such measures may need to be reintroduced. Any decision to reintroduce bubbles will be made in conjunction with local public health officials	Classes to remain in separate outside spaces during break and lunch times at least until half term.  Library and conservatory can	All staff	Ongoing  – review at half term	Ongoing
movement around school	cleaners, contractors,				or in line with any changes in government advice.	continue to be used for staff lunch but only if not being used	All Staff	Ongoing	Ongoing

premises	and vulnerable groups may become infected and suffer ill health from exposure COVID-19				If applicable poorly ventilated/ small spaces (such as a passenger lift)- numbers will be limited where possible  Teachers and other staff are assigned to a group as far as possible. However, movement between groups is allowable if necessary to deliver the curriculum or interventions. Good hand hygiene will be promoted between groups.  Adults to remain socially distanced where this is practicable  School outside space will be used for exercise, breaks and for outdoor education, where possible as being outside can limit transmission.	for meetings / teaching.  Keep a record /timetable to show deployment of staff across the week. Remind about hand hygiene.	Deputy Head	2.9.21	ongoing
Getting or spreading COVID 19 by not following latest public health advice on travel and educational visits	Pupils, staff, volunteers.	3	3	9	Separate, individual risk assessment completed for all educational visits.  Any international trips organised in compliance with international travel legislation  Government travel guidance found here will also be circulated amongst parents and pupils relating to travel to and from school as well as travel on any educational visits	Teaching staff responsible for the trip to add COVID to usual trip RA  Travel guidance to be circulated	Teachers	Ongoing 6.9.21	Ongoing 6.9.21
Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Inadequate PPE provision in	All building users including staff, pupils, visitors, cleaners,	3	3	9	School implement government guidance on PPE in schools, found here.  Face coverings School does not require staff, children and learners to wear face coverings. Pupils age 11+ /staff advised to wear face coverings on	Ensure adequate bins and tissues are made available.  Ensure PPE is available for emergencies – this should include:	Caretaker / SBM / Cleaning Staff Caretaker / Office staff	2.9.21	31.8.21

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school	contractors,	public transport/dedicated school transport.	disposable gloves,			
	and	In the width and a second second second	a disposable apron			
	vulnerable	In line with outbreak management plan and	a fluid-resistant surgical face			
	groups may	following any advice from local public health	mask (only where 2m can't be			
	become	teams, face coverings may be reintroduced	maintained).			
	infected and	in an outbreak situation.				
	suffer ill		Ensure all staff and children	SBM	2.9.21	
	health from	Where face coverings are needed pupils	know the procedures to follow.			
	exposure	and staff given advice on how to safely use				
	COVID-19	(i.e. washing hands when touching				
		coverings, how to safely dispose of etc)				
		Face visors or shields can be worn by those				
		exempt from wearing a face covering but it				
		is recognised that they are not an equivalent				
		alternative in terms of source control of virus				
		transmission. Visors/shields suitably				
		cleaned after use.				
		Other PPE				
		- PPE usually only needed:-				
		where there is contact with				
		diagnosed or suspected person with				
		COVID-19 / or a pupil or staff				
		member becomes unwell (and 2m				
		separate cannot be maintained);				
		and				
		where work with children/young				
		people and learners whose care				
		routinely already involves use of				
		PPE due to their intimate care				
		needs, who will receive their care in				
		the same way.				
		School will follow guidance here for PPE				
		requirements				
		Waste to be disposed of in line with				
		government guidelines found here. This				

Stress Stress and anxiety about Coronavirus COVID-19	Staff may suffer ill health from stress due to COVID-19 related anxiety, stress, bereavement	3	3	9	includes ensuring that waste from people with symptoms of coronavirus, such as disposable cleaning cloths, tissues and PPE is:-  • put it in a plastic rubbish bag and tie it when full  • place the plastic bag in a second bin bag and tie it  • put it in a suitable and secure place marked for storage for 72 hours.  Such waste will be stored safely and securely kept away from children. Waste will not be put in communal waste area until after 72 hours.  Regular line manager communication and up-to-date staff communications to keep staff informed of procedures / changes etc.  Guidance available from Public Health England here - shared with all staff.  Bereavement policy in place and followed where applicable.  Access to Employee Assistance Programme and counselling on self-referral basis.  Staff reassure children and young people on regular basis.	Remind staff stress and anxiety may increase susceptibility to infection e.g. lack of sleep, becoming run down, etc.  Provide information on EAP details – posters around school as appropriate.  Hold wellbeing meetings where possible.	Headteacher	2.9.21	2.9.21
Contractors / Visitors (including governors and parents)  Visitors and spread of Coronavirus	All building users may become infected and suffer ill health from exposure to visitors / contractors	3	3	9	Contractors and visitors including Governors must complete COVID-19 screening form before entering premises. Where form suggest risk of infection, restrict access to building. A record of all visitors and contractors to the building will be kept  Any visitors to the school asked to hand wash/hand sanitise on arrival and at	Ensure reception / office staff are made aware of contractor arrivals and procedures around screening form.	SBM	2.9.21 Ongoing	2.9.21 Ongoing

	who may have or been exposed to COVID-19				appropriate intervals  Meeting with contractors and governors to be held electronically/socially distanced where possible.  Consideration given to events such as school plays to ensure that rooms are well ventilated, visitors asked to wash hands/use hand sanitiser etc.	Provide signage where appropriate.	SBM	Ongoing where relevant	Ongoing
Medication and First Aid Inadequate procedures for managing medical needs	Staff and pupils risk illness / increased risk if unable to get adequate medical assistance quickly enough.	2	3	6	Ensure staff are aware of any medical issues affecting individual attendees including staff.  Healthcare Plans and Individual Risk assessments will be carried out and readily accessible for relevant staff.  School follows normal procedures following a serious ill health (unrelated to Coronavirus), serious injury accident e.g. choking, eye injury, fracture, seizure etc. Staff instructed to ring 999 and inform parents/carers/family.  First Aid to be provided as required with medical hygiene procedures throughout – wear gloves if needed and wash hands thoroughly and frequently and after the patient has left in the care of the paramedics.  School follows normal procedures on administration of medication in line with school policy.	Undertake individual risk assessment where required.  Ensure adequate First Aid equipment is available. (Defibrillator has been ordered)	Headteacher / SBM	6.9.21	6.9.21
Emergency Procedures	All building users may become	2	5	10	General Procedures Fire risk assessment and fire evacuation procedures reviewed to ensure safe	Hold a fire and 'invacuation' (lockdown) drill at earliest convenience.	SBM	Oct Half Term	

Fire and intruder alarms and emergencies- inability to operate emergency systems or procedures	trapped in event of fire				evacuation can be carried out. Sufficient number of staff on site to effect safe evacuation.  Where any fire routines have changed due to COVID restrictions all staff and pupils and others who may be affected to be debriefed on changes.  School has in place separate fire risk assessments and associated management documentation	All staff to undertake online Fire awareness training  First Aid training to be undertaken for those nearing expiry  Brief staff and children on First Aid procedures of the school.	SBM	17.9.21 Ongoing	24.9.21 Ongoing
Building Maintenance  Lack of building/ property maintenance Faulty equipment services leading to injury or death	All building users including staff, pupils, visitors, cleaners, contractors may be injured from defective equipment / property due to lack of maintenance.	2	5	10	All statutory building compliance checks are maintained and up to date (fire alarm, legionella testing etc.).  Where possible checks take place before or after school or away from other staff / pupils.  Contingency arrangements have been implemented for key staff absences (e.g. caretakers), so they can continue to be undertaken.  Assurances have been sought from external organisations providing FM services that checks are in date.  All parts of the building will be brought back to use and full checks completed after being 'moth-balled'.		Caretaker / SBM	2.9.21 & ongoing	Ongoing

REVIEWS:		
DATE OF REVIEW: 22.9.21	REVIEWED BY: D Brown	COMMENTS: Updated re Hall doors following fire drill

DATE OF REVIEW:	REVIEWED BY:	COMMENTS:
DATE OF REVIEW:	REVIEWED BY:	COMMENTS:

# **RISK MATRIX**

The matrix below is used to calculate risk based on likelihood x severity (higher scores indicating higher levels of risk). The resulting score is used to calculate risk ratings and to determine whether additional safety management measures are required to further reduce remaining risk to an acceptable level.

Any risk rating in the red area indicates significant risk which would need to be further controlled before proceeding

	SEVERITY					
LIKELIHOOD	Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Catastrophic	
Very unlikely	1	2	3	4	5	
Unlikely	2	4	6	8	10	
Possible	3	6	9	12	15	
Likely	4	8	12	16	20	
Very likely	5	10	15	20	25	

KEY: SEVERITY OF HARM					
	Severity	Persons at risk			
1	Insignificant	ant Non or insignificant injury / illness / loss 1			
2	Minor	Minor injury / illness / loss minor first aid required	up to 5		
3	Moderate Injury / illness / loss – reportable to the HSE up to		up to 10		
4	Major injuries / severe incapacity – reportable to the HSE		up to 25		
5 Catastrophic Fatality / severe incapacity 25 or m		25 or more			

## **IMPORTANT**

When calculating the risk, the number of persons exposed and the frequency of exposure to risk must be taken into account

Risks that calculate as high **MUST** have further control measures put into place that reduce the risk **BEFORE** the activity is carried out

Medium risk factors will have more control measures introduced where possible to reduce the risk to the lowest possible risk

Staff **MUST** be prohibited from undertaking medium to high risk activities for which they have not received appropriate training

The risk assessment must be signed by the risk assessor or the person in authority managing the activity concerned

# **OFFICE USE ONLY**

# Record of document review and amendments

Risk Assessment Form					
Version	Date	Amended By	Comments		
1	13/05/2020	M Hill	Created		
2	20/5/2020	L Smith	Slight amends following feedback from trade unions and public health		
3	07/07/2020	L Smith	Updated following September Opening Guidance		
4	08/2021	L.Smith	Updated in line with new guidance		