



Preston Primary Academy Trust

Risk Management - Assessment Report

Risk Area:	COVID-19
Assessment Framework:	19 July 2021 onwards Covid-19
Work Area or Activity:	CORONAVIRUS - AS OF 6TH APRIL 2022
Competent Person	Fiona Packer
Groups Affected:	Children
	Contractors
	Members of the public
	STAFF
	Volunteers

Notes:

This is a review of the latest Government Guidance which came out on the 1st April 2022 which relates to the removal of all restrictions and provides guidance on how educational settings can begin to live with Covid.

This is a review of an assessment carried out on 03/03/2022

This is a review of an assessment carried out on 06/04/2022

This is a review of an assessment carried out on 13/09/2022

Assessed on:	20/02/2023
To be Reviewed on:	20/02/2024

What are the Hazards?	What is already being done?	Is this considered satisfactory?
Are you familiar with the latest guidance and how might the school use this?	Yes, the latest Guidance is called Living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19. The link to this is: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-safely-with-respiratory-infections-including-covid-19 . There is also additional guidance which has been specifically designed for schools called Health Protection in Education and Childcare Settings. The link to this is: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities All schools are familiar with this as it is distributed via SAPH, CST, DfE and SCC bulletins which all schools are signed up to receive.	Yes
Does each school have a plan should an outbreak occur?	All schools and nurseries already have baseline infection prevention and control measures in place that will help to manage the spread of any infection. If an outbreak or incident is suspected, the school or nursery will review and reinforce the baseline infection prevention and control measures they already have in place. If a higher than previously experienced and/or rapidly increasing number of staff or student absences occur due to acute respiratory infection or diarrhoea and vomiting then the setting will notify the UKHSA immediately and seek further advice. Additionally, if there is evidence of severe disease due to an infection, for example if a pupil, student, child or staff member is admitted to hospital or if there is more than one infection circulating in the same group of students and staff for example chicken pox and scarlet fever then the school or nursery will also contact the UKHSA.	Yes
How will good hygiene measures be supervised/reminded?	All Trust schools and nurseries have been, and will continue to, actively encourage all children & staff to wash their hands on a regular basis including when they arrive at school or nursery, when they return from breaks, when they change rooms, before & after eating & after every cough or sneeze. In addition to this, children & staff will also have other times throughout the day where they will	Yes

	<p>be asked to wash their hands. Within the Trust hand washing is of key importance to control and minimise the risks of catching the virus. Handwashing will always take priority over hand sanitising. Hand sanitising will be used if washing facilities aren't available or if there are queues to wash hands at sinks. Hand sanitiser will also be readily available for all contractors and visitors to use. The idea is to keep hand sanitiser away from children wherever possible and to encourage them to use good old-fashioned soap and water so far as is reasonably practicable. However; if hand sanitiser is used by children then they will always be supervised due to the risks associated with that product under COSHH. Additionally, the hand sanitiser will always be kept out of reach of children. Children are always encouraged to wash their hands for 20 seconds and in some schools and nurseries, they sing 'happy birthday' twice as a teaching method. Staff are always available to supervise the children, especially the younger ones or children with special educational needs, and they will always be shown how to do it properly as and when required. There are also signs throughout each school detailing the correct method for washing hands. The soap dispensers are topped up in every school and nursery daily and there are spare supplies available in the cleaner's cupboards if they run out. Stocks are regularly checked by each school and nursery and orders are placed to ensure that they do not run out. All schools and nurseries also actively encourage the 'catch it, kill it, bin it' approach. They all have enough bins and tissues available throughout the site. Bins will be emptied during the day by teaching staff if they become too full. Bins will be emptied daily by cleaning staff throughout the schools and nurseries. Hand washing will take place after anyone has coughed or sneezed. Hand washing will also take place after any bins have been emptied. Young children and children with SEND needs will be helped and supported to ensure that this is achieved. If there are any children who 'spit' or use saliva as a sensory stimulant, then these children will be identified by the head teacher and an individual risk assessment completed for them. They will not be denied any face to face education because of this.</p>	
How will good ventilation be maintained while ensuring thermal comfort?	<p>All Trust schools and nurseries will continue to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that they are well ventilated, and a comfortable teaching environment is maintained.</p> <p>This will be achieved by a variety of measures including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ mechanical ventilation systems – these will be adjusted to increase the ventilation rate wherever possible, and checked to confirm that normal operation meets current guidance (if possible, systems will be adjusted to full fresh air or, if not, then systems will be operated as normal as long as they are within a single room and supplemented by an outdoor air supply) ~ natural ventilation – opening windows (in cooler weather windows will be opened just enough to provide constant background ventilation and opened more fully during breaks to purge the air in the space). Opening internal doors will also assist with creating a throughput of air ~ natural ventilation – if necessary external opening doors will also be used (as long as they are not fire doors and where safe to do so) <p>To balance the need for increased ventilation while maintaining a comfortable temperature, the following measures will also be used as appropriate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ opening high level windows in preference to low level to reduce draughts ~ increasing the ventilation while spaces are unoccupied (e.g. between classes, during break and lunch, when a room is unused) ~ providing flexibility to allow additional, suitable indoor clothing. ~ rearranging furniture where possible to avoid direct drafts <p>Heating will be used as necessary to ensure comfort levels are maintained particularly in occupied spaces.</p> <p>In addition to all of the above, some schools have also received CO2 monitors from the Government which have also been put in place.</p>	Yes

If running out of school activities, do you familiarise yourself with the specific guidance and outline any additional measures?	Schools who are running out of school activities and clubs during the holidays will always follow the latest government guidance as detailed in the link below https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protective-measures-for-holiday-or-after-school-clubs-and-other-out-of-school-settings-for-children-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak	Yes
If you are planning a school trip, have you checked details with your insurer?	All schools and nurseries have been instructed to check with their insurance provider prior to organising, booking or paying for any school trips.	Yes
Outline when PPE (as opposed to face coverings) may be required	If there is a risk of splashing or contamination with blood or bodily fluids during an activity, then disposable gloves and plastic aprons should be worn. Gloves and aprons should be disposable, non-powdered vinyl/nitrile or latex-free and CE marked. Wear disposable eye protection (or if reusable decontaminate prior to next use) if there is a risk of splashing to the face.	Yes
Are all staff aware that twice weekly asymptomatic testing (lateral flow testing) has ended?	Yes, this is publicly known through the media and other channels. Staff are fully aware that they can no longer access free tests from their school. Communications to schools have also been provided by SCC, UKHSA/PHE, CST, DFE telling schools not to hand out tests and to keep them until further instructions are provided. Any out of date tests are to be disposed of accordingly. Staff may still however have some surplus supplies of test kits within their homes which they are free to use as and when required but this is not mandatory and there is no requirement for them to test by their school or nursery.	Yes
What curriculum specific additional cleaning/other measures might be maintained?	All schools will continue with their enhanced cleaning arrangements which have been in place since the beginning of the pandemic. e.g. high touch points, sports equipment, musical instruments, toilets etc.	Yes
What remote education plans will be in place should a student need to self-isolate?	Schools and nurseries will always support children with their education who are away from school as a result of Covid 19. This will either be done remotely or by sending work packs home for them to complete with the teacher maintaining regular contact with the child/parents for support as required.	Yes
Have you considered what to do if someone has symptoms of a respiratory infection, including COVID-19, and have not taken a COVID-19 test?	If someone has symptoms of a respiratory infection, such as COVID-19, and they have a high temperature or do not feel well enough to go to work, school or carry out normal activities, the advice is to try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people, until their high temperature has gone down (if they had one) or until they no longer feel unwell. It is particularly important to avoid close contact with anyone at higher risk of becoming seriously unwell if they are infected with COVID-19 and other respiratory infections, especially those whose immune system means that they are at higher risk of serious illness, despite vaccination. Home working will be encouraged where possible.	Yes
Have you considered what to do if someone has a positive COVID-19 test result?	If an adult has had a positive COVID-19 test result, they will be advised to try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days after the day they took your test. For children and young people under the age of 18, the advice is to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days after the day they took their test.	Yes
Have you considered how the latest guidance affects pregnant workers in terms of living with Covid?	The guidance for pregnant workers is now the same as it is for everyone else in terms of Covid. However schools will continue to carry out new and expectant mothers risk assessments as part of the Trust New & Expectant mothers policy and will encourage vaccination in those who haven't yet received it.	Yes
Have you considered the implications of having visitors on site?	Visitors will no longer be restricted on school sites. This includes parents visiting to attend school celebration assemblies, parents evenings etc. However; should an outbreak occur then this will be reviewed accordingly.	Yes
Have all protective measures for Covid 19 been considered?	Yes. This risk assessment takes into account all the baseline measures described as part of the latest Government Guidance which was last updated on the 13th Feb 2023.	Yes

	Health protection in children and young people settings, including education.	
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Fiona Packer Signed **Dated**

Co-ordinator Signed **Dated**

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