

Our Lady of Peace Catholic Primary and Nursery School

Risk Assessment for September 2021

Who is at Risk?

Pupils, Staff and Pupils' families

The risk assessment will be continually updated and reviewed in line with Government guidance.

This risk assessment is a 'live document' and will be reviewed in line with Local and Government guidance.

How can the hazards cause harm?

Illness, COVID 19 outbreak

This is based on the latest DFE guidance published August 2021

Our Lady of Peace Catholic Primary School takes its responsibilities to students, staff, visitors and the local community, extremely seriously. The wellbeing and health & safety of our community has been central to our planning. This Risk Assessment explains the actions our school leaders should take to reduce the risk of transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19) in our school. The Risk Assessment includes public health advice, endorsed by Public Health England (PHE). In accordance with the DFE Schools COVID-19 operational guidance, the Risk Assessment outlines the measures to be in place in our School from September 2021, unless an outbreak should occur (see OLOP Outbreak Management Plan).

As the country has now moved to Step 4 of the roadmap, the government will continue to manage the risk of serious illness from the spread of the virus. This marks a new phase in the government's response to the pandemic, moving away from stringent restrictions on everyone's day-to-day lives, towards advising people on how to protect themselves and others, alongside targeted interventions to reduce risk. As COVID-19 becomes a virus that we learn to live with, there is now an imperative to reduce the disruption to children and young people's education - particularly given that the direct clinical risks to children are extremely low, and every adult has been offered a first vaccine and the opportunity for two doses by mid-September. Our priority is to deliver face-to-face, high quality education to all pupils. The evidence is clear that being out of education causes significant harm to educational attainment, life chances and mental and physical health. The school is aware of the legal responsibilities of providers in taking steps to reopen. The school has duties of care towards staff, students and visitors, including under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and the Equality Act 2010. The school will continue to comply with those obligations

Arrangements	Plans in school
Mixing and Bubbles	<p>We will no longer recommend that it is necessary to keep children in consistent groups ('bubbles'). As well as enabling flexibility in curriculum delivery, this means that assemblies can resume, and there is no longer the need to make alternative arrangements to avoid mixing at lunch.</p> <p>The Outbreak Management Plan covers the possibility that it may become necessary to reintroduce 'bubbles' for a temporary period, to reduce mixing between groups.</p> <p>Any decision to recommend the reintroduction of 'bubbles' would take account of the detrimental impact they can have on the delivery of education.</p> <p>The one-way systems in place both within school buildings and around the school site have been removed. Staggered start and finish times no longer apply.</p>
Tracing close contacts and isolation	<p>Close contacts will be identified via NHS Test and Trace and education settings will no longer be expected to undertake contact tracing.</p> <p>From 16 August 2021, children under the age of 18 years old and adults who have received both vaccinations will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case unless they are experiencing symptoms. They are advised to take a PCR test as soon as possible and are not required to self-isolate while they wait for the results of the PCR test. They are advised to wear a mask in school whilst they wait for the result.</p>
Face coverings	<p>From Step 4, face coverings will no longer be advised for pupils, staff and visitors either in classrooms or in communal areas. However, should a member of staff choose to wear a face covering, then that is their personal choice to do so, providing it is not to the detriment of learning for pupils. The school will monitor those members of staff who choose to wear face covering when teaching/ supporting to ascertain the impact.</p> <p>There will be a limited number of face coverings available for visitors and contractors who request them.</p> <p>The Outbreak Management Plan covers the possibility that it may become necessary to reintroduce face coverings for a temporary period in communal areas</p>

Ensure good hygiene	
Hand hygiene	<p>We will continue to promote frequent and thorough hand cleaning, using soap and water or hand sanitizer.</p> <p>We will continue to provide wipes at frequently used touch points e.g. photocopiers.</p>
Respiratory Hygiene	We will continue to promote the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.
Use of personal protective equipment (PPE)	The use of PPE is no longer required beyond what would be use for normal work procedures. (nappy changing etc.)
Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes, using standard products such as detergents	
Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes, using standard products such as detergents	An appropriate cleaning schedule will be in place to ensure regular cleaning of areas and equipment with a focus on frequently touched surfaces.
Keep occupied spaces well ventilated	
Keep occupied spaces well ventilated	When the school is in operation, it is important to ensure it is well ventilated and that a comfortable teaching environment is maintained. Opening external windows will be considered (weather and temperature dependent) alongside the opening of internal doors to assist with the flow of air.
Follow public health advice on testing, self – isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID 19.	
When an individual develops COVID-19 symptoms or has a positive test	<p>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>Anyone in school who develops COVID-19 symptoms, however mild, will be sent home and they should follow public health advice.</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</p>

	possible. Appropriate PPE should also be used if close contact is necessary. Any rooms they use should be cleaned after they have left.
Asymptomatic testing	Staff should undertake twice weekly home tests whenever they are on site until the end of September, when this will be reviewed.
Confirmatory PCR tests	Staff and pupils with a positive LFD test result should self-isolate in line with the stay at home guidance and take a free PCR test to check if they have COVID-19. Whilst awaiting the PCR result, the individual should continue to self-isolate. 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.
Other considerations	
Clinical Extremely Vulnerable Children	All CEV children and young people should 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 GP or clinician not to attend.
Admitting Children into school who show symptoms	In most cases, parents and carers will agree that a pupil with symptoms should not attend the school, given the potential risk to others. If a parent or carer insists on a pupil attending the school the school can take the decision to refuse the pupil if, in our reasonable judgement, it is necessary to protect other pupils and staff from possible infection with COVID-19. This is in line with DFE guidance.
Travel and quarantine	Parents travelling abroad should bear in mind the impact on their child's education which may result from any requirement to quarantine or isolate upon return. If a child is isolating because they have tested positive but are fit and well, then Schools should continue to deliver remote education.

Remote Education	The remote education provided should be equivalent in length to the core teaching pupils would receive in school.
Education Recovery	The school has a plan in place to ensure children catch up on their missed education during the pandemic.