COVID-19 epidemic

Site Risk Assessment: December 2021

This document must be viewed alongside the Staff COVID-19 Risk Assessment, the COVID-19 Student Risk Assessments and curriculum planning documents. Attention is also drawn to the Covid Outbreak Management Plan, which is introduced in September 2021. This risk assessment is intended to remain in place for the Spring Term 2022, but will be reviewed should circumstances change.In December 2021 the school faced a the greatest number of infections amongst students and staff since the start of the pandemic; this was due to the Omicron variant, which is far more transmissible than previous variants. This risk assessment reflects Government guidance published in the Covid-19 pages of the DfE website, which are regularly updated.

Identifying the hazards – assessing the risk		Control measures – reducing the risk
Risks to student welfare during unauthorised absence	**(H)**	● All students are expected to attend school, unless they have symptoms of Covid-19, have tested positive on a lateral flow test and are awaiting a PCR test result, , or have a positive PCR result. . This to be published on the website and by letter from the Headteacher to all parents and carers. ● Students whose classes have been closed owing to high levels of infection, or who have tested positive for Covid-19 but showing no symptoms, or who have been required to isolate for other reasons, will have access to on-line learning. ● Tutors or other classroom staff to make a weekly call to students working at home in order to review the effectiveness of online learning and to check on welfare. ● Homes of persistently absent students to be called by attendance lead and other attendance staff following usual school procedures. ● Ongoing non-attendance to be referred to EWO / Headteacher. ● Identified vulnerable students not attending to be called by the safeguarding team. ● Links with social workers to be maintained.
Risk of infection: general	**(M)**	● Government guidance has removed the requirements for split lunches and classroom bubbles in the interests of providing a full curriculum. ● Rapid mass testing of students and staff to be carried out three times (3-5 days apart) from 5th January. ● Students to be given sufficient test kits to take twice-weekly tests at home.

		● Students testing positive on a lateral flow test to be sent home and a PCR test recommended.
Risk of infection being brought into the school by visitors	**(H)**	● Visitors will be limited until at least February half term (11th February 2022). This to be reviewed at the time depending on local infection rates . Exceptions will be: - transition interviews - external agencies where on-site work is deemed appropriate in the interests of students - RPO workshops - Open Orchestra
Risk of infection caused by contaminated hands		● Parents to be reminded of the importance of good personal care, including hand washing before leaving home. ● Hand sanitisers in classrooms and at entrance points to continue to be used by staff, visitors and students. ● All staff and students to wash hands at the beginning and end of breaks. ● Staff and students to sanitise hands every time they change space, including at the beginning and end of lunch and at the beginning and end of breaks. ● Each class to be given a plan for handwashing, to be devised by tutors and TAs.
Risk of infection through contact in lessons.	**(M)**	<u>Teaching spaces</u> ● All classrooms to use lidded, pedal-operated waste bins. ● Students to be seated side-by-side, and facing the front. ● Given the increased transmissibility of new strains, and given that classes are expected to be full, students to wear face coverings in lessons unless exempt. ● Exempt students to sit together where possible, or alone. ● Staff to maintain a 2m gap between students and other adults unless close contact is absolutely necessary for reasons of health and safety. ● Where staff are in closer contact, staff must wear visors. ● Transparent face mask should be worn by staff where possible to facilitate communication. ● Where students or staff are clinically vulnerable or unable to socially distance, visor wearing is compulsory. ● Doors to be left open, with at least one window on the opposite side of the

		room at least partially open to encourage cross-ventilation. Heating to be used at the same time where necessary. ● CO2 monitors to be observed, and action to be taken where readings are consistently above 1500ppm. ● PE kits to be worn all day when classes have PE to avoid pressure on changing rooms. <u>Resources</u> ● All resources, including books and paper, can be shared within a class. ● Where resources are used by more than one class, sets must be separated and labelled. ● Paper may be used where there is an educational reason. This includes exercise books, paper and files and limited worksheets. ● Staff to work online instead of on paper wherever possible. ● Shared staff resources to be placed on Google Drive, Calendar and Staff Classroom. ● Books and paper resources to be quarantined for 72 hours before use with a different class. ● Hand sanitising to be carried out by the teacher or teaching assistant whenever resources, including paper resources, are handed out. <u>Surfaces</u> ● Surfaces such as desks and door handles to be sanitised between lessons. As before, this will be the responsibility of classroom staff.
Risk of infection caused by general social contact in common areas	**(M)**	● Students' mobile telephones to be handed in and stored separately as usual. ● Social distancing to be observed on entrance. ● All staff and students to use sanitiser on entry to the building. ● There will be no live whole-school or whole Key Stage assemblies. ● Additional cleaning regime to continue.
Risk of infection through general social contact at mealtimes.	**(M)**	● Bubbles to have separate lunchtimes with a five-minute break in between to minimise social contact. ● Staff to use a number of different staff rooms allocated for them, and ensure social distancing, avoiding being within 2 m for any extended period indoors,

		all within 1 m outside. ● Staff to avoid sharing food and utensils
Risk of infection in the wider community		● School trips to indoor settings to cease , except where Covid risk assessments have been undertaken by the setting and the activity is considered to be covid-secure. This measure will be reviewed by 11th February..
Risk of infection of volunteers and agency staff carrying out testing		● All those carrying out testing to use mask, visor, apron and gloves ● All testers to carry out mandatory training in relation to PPE and Infection Prevention and Control (IPC). ● Testing areas to be sanitised between tests. ● One person to be registered at a time, and only one person to be at each testing station (i.e. 3 in all) ● Those being tested to enter by playground door and leave via corridor). ● Room to be additionally sanitised after all testing sessions by the school's additional cleaning staff.
Risk of infection of those being tested.		● Classroom staff to ensure social distancing whilst waiting outside Room 12. ● Classes to wait in the playground to minimise risk of infection. ● Social distancing to be maintained during testing process ● Surfaces which may be touched by students during the test to be regularly sanitised by the school's additional cleaner.

Ongoing risk assessment		
1. Apply the control measures **2. Monitor how effective they are** **3. Change, adapt, revise as required**		

Signed by Headteacher **Date: 20th December 2021**