

# COVID-19 RISK ASSESSMENT FOR ST EDWARD'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

## January 2022

### 1 Risk of accelerating Covid-19 cases amongst pupils and/or staff:

#### Mitigations:

- (a) Staff asked to continue to social distance where practical.
- (b) Staff are advised that **they must wear** masks in communal areas, such as corridors, and in the dining hall unless exempt.
- (c) All staff may be asked to declare their vaccination status and underlying health conditions so that school can consider risk. Staff informed that they have to inform the school if changing health circumstances places them at a high or higher risk.
- (d) School to continue to make available anti-viral wipes and sanitizing gel in every classroom and key points.
- (e) Rooms to be well-ventilated by having windows open (parents advised re warmth).
- (f) Handwashing facilities. Children are directed to these in the morning and pre/after-lunch.
- (g) Drinking fountains remain closed.
- (h) Staff advised of signs of Covid-19 infection e.g. cough, runny/blocked nose, headache, temperature, loss of taste and smell, fatigue.
- (i) Procedures in place for rooms/areas to be 'Covid-19' cleaned if necessary.
- (j) NHS Test and Trace may contact staff to identify close contacts (they should test daily for 7 days and continue to work if negative).
- (k) All advised to avoid public transport if possible (e.g. walk/cycle to school) and wear a face mask when travelling on public transport.
- (l) 2-metre tape to be put around teacher desk in classrooms.
- (m) Arrangements to be put in place for air cleaning units if these are received by the school.

### 2 Risk that parents will send children in with coronavirus symptoms:

- (a) If pupils receive a positive LFT, they are advised to seek a PCR as soon as possible. If this is negative they may return to school.
- (b) Refreshed training for medical room staff, if necessary including use of PPE.
- (c) Parents advised to test children at home and acquire stocks of LFT.

### 3 Risk of another Covid outbreak which will mean a return to blended learning: In the normal course of events, pupils that are off sick will not have work sent home unless they are off for a protracted period (class teacher has to organise sending work home after 6 school days if absence is likely to be protracted or is due to Covid isolation).

#### Mitigations:

- (a) Head of Teaching and Learning to be ready with special Covid-19 remote learning timetable.
- (b) SENCO to have plans to offer support to vulnerable and SEND pupils.
- (c) Team that will offer support to vulnerable/SEND identified, if school has to close to most pupils. If there are a number of children sent home e.g. in a Year group, a return to remote learning might be considered.
- (d) School to offer supported learning to pupils who are self-isolating.

4 Pupil and/or Staff mental health has been adversely affected by Covid-19 crisis and this causes additional negative issues in school.

Mitigation: Pupils and staff are signposted to supportive counselling/resource.

5 Risk to staff that are Clinically Extremely Vulnerable:

Mitigation: Staff that are CEV to be offered a bespoke risk assessment. These are asked to declare themselves CEV and that they may wish to have a bespoke risk assessment to enhance their protection and ensure minimum exposure to risk of the virus.

6 Risk that normal classes may not be able to operate because of staff sickness.

Mitigation: To ensure flexible use of non-teaching staff to provide support if necessary.

7 Risk that essential functions might not be covered: e.g. First Aid, DSL, SENCO.

Mitigation. To ensure sufficient back-up (labour), and extra training of e.g. First Aiders.

8 That additional contacts, e.g. visitors to the school, may bring infection onto the premises.

Mitigation: To consider the merits/demerits of 'virtual' meetings where feasible. Most visits will be virtual.

N.B.

If pupils receive a positive LFD test they must seek a PCR test as soon as possible. For those who record a positive test the isolation period has been reduced to 7 days (if there are two negative LFT results on days 6 and 7).

If LFD test is negative, they can return to school provided they are displaying no symptoms. Pupils who are close contacts should test daily for 7 days but can attend school if they have no symptoms.

If there is a risk of outbreak, the DfE will advise/can be approached for advice on 0800 046 8687 (their helpline).

The DHSC PPE Helpline number is 0800 876 6802.

As from Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022 schools are required to update the educational settings status form on a daily basis.