



A MEMBER OF

Greywood  
Multi-Schools Trust



**This is the information that we used to update our school Covid-19 Risk Assessment on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2020, following the Prime Minister's announcement of a lockdown in the evening of Monday 4.1.20.**

### **Introduction and context**

All of these issues need to be considered for this new risk assessment.

1. Guidance from the Government, DfE (Department for Education) & PHE (Public Health England.)
2. Advice and support from HSE (Health and Safety Executive)
3. Advice and guidance to staff from their Trade Unions
4. Research Findings about the new variant of the virus which shows that it is up to 70% more transmissible.
5. Plans to deliver lateral flow testing in school.
6. Vaccine developments
7. Response to the NHS CV19 app – track and trace arrangements.
8. Advice for individuals with medical conditions -shielding advice
9. The research that shows CV19 affects people differently and many so not show any symptoms at all (known as asymptomatic)
10. The late announcement of the Spring term Lockdown, meaning that arrangements have to be put in place in a very short space of time.

### **Key Facts about the Transmission of the Covid-19 Virus**

The advice from PHE is to assume that everyone is carrying the virus – even if they do not have any symptoms.

- The principal mode of infection is exposure to respiratory droplets carrying the CV19 virus, (*source WHO & Centre for Disease Control*)
- Virus can spread from an infected person's mouth or nose in small liquid particles when they:
  - Cough
  - Sneeze
  - Speak
  - Sing
  - Breath heavily
- New variant transmission rate = 71% higher (*Source: British Medical Journal*)

The main source of transmission is through respiratory droplets;

- Large droplets – fall out of the air onto surfaces within seconds to minutes while close to the source
- Smaller droplets – can remain suspended in the air for minutes to hours and travel far from the source

The main ways in which the Covid-19 virus is passed on;

- **Contact** – touching a contaminated surface or object and then touching your face (eyes, nose or mouth) without hand washing
- **Droplet** – droplets carrying the virus exhaled by a person when you are within 2m
- **Airborne** – droplets carrying the virus that can remain suspended in the air over a long distances (>2m) and time (hours)

Who is at risk?

- **At risk through Contact** – touching a contaminated surface or object and then touching your face (eyes, nose or mouth) without hand washing
- **At risk through Droplet** – droplets carrying the virus exhaled by a person when you are within 2m
- **At risk through Airborne** – droplets carrying the virus that can remain suspended in the air over a long distances (>2m) and time (hours)

### **Summary of our key Risk Assessment controls full details are in the risk assessment published December 2020**

1. Anyone who has symptoms should stay at home and take a test as soon as possible. They should remain in isolation until they have received the result of the test. If the test result is positive, test and trace contact services should be informed, and school should be immediately informed.
2. Procedures are in place should a member of staff or student develop symptoms during the day – they will be placed in isolation within school until they are able to get home.
3. Reduce all contact with other staff and students as much as possible, (lessons, offices, meetings etc)
4. Maintain strict social distance of 2m. Avoid close contact.
5. Staff will try to teach from the front of the classroom to maximise social distance.
6. Face masks and/or face shield to be worn in classrooms and communal areas unless someone is exempt.
7. End of lesson/day procedure: disinfect desks & equipment; hand sanitise; face masks on; ventilate room.
8. Reduce contact points e.g.: doors open so that fewer people have to touch the door handles.
9. Very regular hand washing especially before eating
10. Avoid touching your face; use a tissue or arm to catch droplets when sneezing
11. Ventilate the room you are in, (windows open)

### **Possible further controls**

Quarantine arrangements for books and deliveries

Windows and doors open at all times

Complete a daily contact register for example;

The close contact register if any of the conditions below are met:

- Within 2m of someone for more than 15 mins
- Within 1m of someone for more than 1 min
- Any face to face contact less than 1m for any length of time
- Any skin to skin contact

Introduction of the lateral flow testing in school (although this is on a voluntary basis)

Minimise number in the class and the length of time within classrooms – this significantly reduces contact.

Class bubbles to be kept as small as possible.

Enforcement measures of social distancing, use of PPE, Hand sanitising rules, clean down procedures etc.

**As the risk assessment is being reviewed on a daily basis please contact the school office if you would like a copy.**