

LIVING WITH COVID: COVID-19: School Risk Assessment

APRIL 2022

Risk Assessment based on guidance from:

- The use of personal protective equipment (PPE) in education, childcare and children's social care settings, including for aerosol generating procedures (AGPs); DfE
- Protective measures for holiday and after-school clubs, and other out-of-school settings during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak (applies until Step 4); DfE, Updated 7 July 2021
- Contingency framework: education and childcare settings August 2021
- Schools COVID-19 operational guidance Updated 17 August 2021
- DfE Guidance Updated 28/11/2021
- 5/01/2022: Press release: Confirmatory PCR tests to be temporarily suspended for positive lateral flow test results
- Guidance Actions for schools during the coronavirus outbreak: What all schools will need to do during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. (updated 05/01/2022)
- Guidance Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection (updated 11/01/2022)
- COVID-19: Actions for out-of-school settings January 2022 (DfE)
- Actions for early years and childcare providers during the COVID-19 pandemic February 2022 (DfE)
- What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges, Updated 25 February 2022
- COVID-19: people with COVID-19 and their contacts, Published 24 February 2022
- Schools COVID-19 operational guidance, February 2022
- Walsall Council; Public Health RE: Response to government's Living Safely with COVID-19 plan, 28 February 2022
- 1st April 2022 updated National Guidance (DfE)

School Name: Bloxwich Academy (Secondary)

Headteacher: Andy Seager

Head Caretaker: Tony Brotherton

Original COVID-19 Assessment conducted by: Gary Smart	Position: Facilities Manager	Original COVID-19 Assessment in consultation with: Gary Smart Jacqui Newsome Tony Brotherton Ian Chamberlain Deputy Head Teacher Andy Seager Head Teacher	Date of original COVID-19 Assessment: 02.04.20	Date of original COVID-19 Assessment revised at Trust Level: Wednesday 10 th June 2020	Date Revised: 16.07.20 30.08.20 23.10.20 05.11.20 (<i>new national guidance</i>) 08.12.20 (<i>updated national guidance</i>) 03.12.20 18.12.20 (<i>updated Schools, Colleges Testing Handbook V3.7: 17.12.20</i>) 03.01.21 02.02.21	Review Date: Weekly
	Position:	In consultation with: Headteacher	Date of Assessment:			

Step 4: COVID-19 Assessment conducted by: Gary Smart	Facilities Manager	CEO National Guidance (Published August 2021)	07/07/2021 20/08/2021		25.02.21 03.03.21 (walk-round/site visit) 13.04.21 11.05.21 14.06.21 16.06.21 07.07.21 20.08.21 04.10.21 18.10.21 10.11.21 29.11.21 04.01.22 11.01.22 17.01.22 20.01.22 28.02.22 01.03.22 01.04.22	
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IMPACT/SEVERITY				
Very High (VH) Strong likelihood of fatality / serious injury occurring	High (H) Possibility of fatality/serious injury occurring	Medium (M) Possibility of significant injury or over 3-day absence occurring	Low (L) Possibility of minor injury only	
LIKELIHOOD				
5 (Almost certain) Will undoubtedly happen/recur, possibly frequently	4 (Likely) Will probably happen/recur, but it is not a persisting issue/circumstances	3 (Possible) Might happen or recur occasionally	2 (Unlikely) Do not expect it to happen, but it is possible it may do so	1 (Rare) This will never happen/recur

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed?	Controls Required	Impact/ Severity	Likelihood	Action by who?	Date	Done
Positive COVID-19 Test	Staff Pupils Parents Others	For individuals with a positive COVID-19 test, they are advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days and for children and young people aged 18 and under, the advice will be 3 days .	M	2	All	Updated April 22	YES
Management of COVID-19 Absence	Staff Pupils Parents Others	As the Trust's Risk Assessment requires employees to stay at home if they have a positive COVID-19 test, then the COVID-19 absence will be discounted for the purpose of formal absence management and for sick pay entitlement. Proof of a positive COVID-19 test will be required.	M	2	Trust Staff Head	Updated April 22	YES
COVID-19 Tests	Staff Pupils Parents Others	As of 1 April, free COVID-19 tests will continue to be available, after the universal testing ends on 1 April, for specific groups including eligible patients, NHS staff and care staff. This does not apply to education settings, other than for individuals who are at risk of serious illness from COVID-19 and eligible for treatments.	M	2	Trust Site Manager Staff	Updated April 22	YES
Regular Asymptomatic Testing	Staff Pupils Parents Others	Regular asymptomatic testing will no longer be recommended within education or childcare settings, including in SEND.	M	2	All	Updated April 22	YES
Vaccination	Staff Pupils Parents Others	The Government recommends all staff take up the offer of a vaccine.	M	2	Staff	Updated Feb 22	YES
Face Coverings	Staff Pupils Parents Others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Face coverings are no longer advised to be worn by staff and visitors in communal areas. Staff and Pupils should follow wider advice on face coverings outside of the school setting, including on transport to and from school. Health advice continues to be that early years children should not wear face coverings. 	M	2	Staff	Updated Feb 22	YES

Local Outbreaks	Staff Pupils Parents Others	The Matrix Academy Trust has an outbreak management plan in place outlining how we would operate if the number of positive cases substantially increases our schools, or in the local area. Central government may also offer local areas of particular concern an enhanced response package to help limit increases in transmission.	M	2	Staff	Updated Feb 22	YES
Remote education if pupils cannot attend school	Staff Pupils Parents Others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All state-funded schools must provide remote education for school-aged children who are unable to attend school due to following government guidance or law relating to COVID-19 (<i>for example if they are self-isolating, or if they have tested positive but are well enough to learn from home</i>). Schools should provide remote education equivalent in length to the core teaching your child would usually get in school. 	M	2	Staff	Updated Feb 22	YES
Maintaining enhanced cleaning	Staff Pupils Parents Others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each room to have a control-system box including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Sanitiser spray</i> <i>Paper towel</i> <i>Cleaning wipes</i> <i>Hand sanitiser pump bottle</i> Toilets cleaned three times per day. High frequency touch points such as door handles and handrails three times per day. Deep cleaning of classrooms once per day. Cleaning of all touch points, work stations and IT equipment each time a teacher departs or arrives to a classroom. Cleaning of all touch points, work stations and IT equipment each time pupils move between zones on the timetable. Regular cleaning of surfaces will reduce the risk of spreading the virus. 	L	2	Site Cleaning Contract	Updated and review Feb 22	YES

Hand hygiene	Staff Pupils Parents Others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frequent and thorough hand cleaning should now be regular practice. Schools should continue to ensure that pupils clean their hands regularly. This can be done with soap and water or hand sanitiser. 	L	2	All	Updated and review Feb 22	YES
Respiratory hygiene	Staff Pupils Parents Others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach continues to be very important and Schools should continue to encourage this with pupils. 	L	2	All	Updated and review Feb 22	YES
Ventilation on site	Staff Pupils Parents Others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When the school setting is in operation, it is important to ensure it is well ventilated and that a comfortable environment is maintained. The Site Team have identified any poorly ventilated spaces as part of our risk assessment and have taken steps to improve fresh air flow in these areas. Mechanical ventilation is a system that uses a fan to draw fresh air, or extract air from a room. These should be adjusted to increase the ventilation rate wherever possible and checked to confirm that normal operation meets current guidance and that only fresh outside air is circulated. If possible, systems should be adjusted to full fresh air or, if this is not possible, then systems should be operated as normal as long as they are within a single room and supplemented by an outdoor air supply. Where mechanical ventilation systems exist, the Site Team should ensure that they are maintained in accordance with the manufacturers' recommendations. Where it is safe to do so, opening external windows can improve natural ventilation and, in addition, opening internal doors, can also assist with creating a throughput of air. 	M	2	Staff Site Team	Updated Feb 22	YES

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If necessary, external opening doors may also be used (if they are not fire doors and where safe to do so). • The School should balance the need for increased ventilation while maintaining a comfortable temperature. • The Health and Safety Executive guidance on ventilation and air conditioning during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and the Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers' coronavirus (COVID-19) advice provide more information. • CO2 monitors have been provided to the School, so staff can quickly identify where ventilation needs to be improved. These are available from the Site Team. 					
Attendance	Staff Pupils Parents Others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School attendance is mandatory for all pupils of compulsory school age and it is a priority to ensure that as many children as possible regularly attend school. • Where a child is self-isolating (awaiting a test result) or in quarantine because of COVID19, they should be recorded as code X (<i>not attending in circumstances related to coronavirus</i>). Where they are unable to attend because they have a confirmed case of COVID-19 they should be recorded as code I (<i>illness</i>). 	L	2	Head Staff All	Updated Feb 22	YES
Awareness of policies / procedures /	Staff Pupils Parents Others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All staff, pupils and volunteers are aware of all relevant policies and procedures including, but not limited to, the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Health and Safety Policy ✓ Behaviour Policy ✓ Safeguarding policy and associated updates/ addendums 	M	2	Site/ Staff Head	Updated and review Feb 22	YES

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All staff, returning to work must ensure they are aware of the current guidelines regarding safe distancing and washing hands on a regular basis. • All staff can access the following information on-line for up to date information on COVID-19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ <i>Public Health England</i> ✓ <i>Gov.co.uk</i> ✓ <i>NHS</i> ✓ <i>DfE</i> ✓ <i>Department for Health and Social Care</i> • Support Staff to access FLICK COVID-19 training. • Staff are made aware of the school's response to coronavirus. They contact the school as soon as possible if they believe they have symptoms or have been exposed to anyone with COVID-19. • Parents are made aware of the school's response to coronavirus. They contact the school as soon as possible if they believe that their child has symptoms or have been exposed to anyone with COVID-19. • Pupils are made aware of the school's response to coronavirus. They inform staff as soon as possible if they believe they have symptoms or have been exposed to anyone with COVID-19. 					
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