



# COVID 19 - Risk Assessment Addendum January 11<sup>th</sup> 2021 due to National UK Lockdown

In light of the increased threat levels, our risk assessment has been reviewed to limit the spread of the virus in school and the local community. Because the risk level identified by the Government has been increased, the school has worked to update its own mitigation measures. This approach has been considered by Governors and approved. Therefore, we will not operate solely on the basis of our risk assessment produced in September 2020 (when COVID-19 transmission levels were at their lowest immediately prior to full re-opening of school at the start of the Autumn Term 2020) and instead have introduced further measures. These measures will be disseminated to all staff and to our parents and carers.

Additional measures are detailed in the Appendices shared with staff and on the website. The school will remain responsive to questions and challenge but remains committed to providing a safe working environment. Actions developed through this Risk Assessment Addendum have been reported to the Local Authority and have also been reported to the Regional Schools Commissioner. Both have acknowledged and supported the outcome. Staff demonstrate an unwavering determination to provide the best opportunities for the children, whilst ensuring the safety of children and colleagues remains paramount.

HAZARD		RISK					CONTROL MEASURES	RR
Identified Hazards	Hazard Effect	P L. M. H.	X	S L. M. H.	=	RR L. M. H.	RR L. M. H.	
<p><b>What does the science tell us?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A new variant of the SARS-CoV-virus (variant B.1.1.7) was identified in the UK in November 2020. This new variant is likely to represent a significantly increased transmission risk.</li> <li>The latest estimate of R for England is 1.1 – 1.3.</li> <li><b>The greater transmissibility of B.1.1.7 has tipped us into a new, even more serious, pandemic.</b> We are no longer in the same pandemic we were in up to December 2020.</li> <li>While the new variant is not thought to cause more severe disease than the standard strain of Covid-19, its greater infectiousness will inevitably lead to many more hospitalisations and deaths as more people catch it.</li> <li>The new B.1.1.7 variant is not only more infectious, it's increasingly infectious in children 0-9 (+24%) and 10-19 (+14%)</li> <li>B.1.1.7 has a substantial transmission advantage with the estimated difference in reproduction numbers from the previous strain ranging between 40% and 70%.</li> </ul>	<p>Increased risk of others contracting COVID 19.</p> <p>Increased risk spreading COVID 19.</p> <p>Increased risk of illness.</p> <p>Increased risk of fatality.</p> <p>Increased risk of exacerbation of existing medical conditions.</p>	<b>H</b>	X	<b>H</b>	=	<b>H</b>	<b>L</b>	
						<p><b>Limit the number of children on site:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimise the number of key worker children in each bubble so that 1m+ social distancing can be adhered to. This is capped at 15 maximum throughout school.</li> <li>All teaching staff to deliver remote learning to children working at home via TEAMS. See Remote Learning Policy for more details.</li> <li>Support staff and teachers to supervise key worker children and vulnerable children in their year group bubbles, staff consultation to ensure equity in allocation and responsiveness to personal, individual needs and carers on a regular basis the importance of minimising school numbers to keep the community safe.</li> <li>Children working in school will be accessing the same remote learning provision as those working at home. This ensures high quality consistency.</li> <li>Use Nurture team to support parents and carers who require tailored support/ face poverty</li> <li>Prioritise vulnerable children.</li> <li>Prioritise parents and carers who are both key workers.</li> <li>Prioritise single parent key workers.</li> <li>Encourage key worker families whose partner is not a key worker to access remote learning from home.</li> <li>Encourage key worker families whose partner is not a key worker but are unable to work from home to use support bubble they have in place.</li> </ul>		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SAGE advised the government on 22<sup>nd</sup> December that the R would be lower with schools closed.</li> <li>• The SAGE analysis shows that children and young people are more likely to bring the virus into the household than those aged 17+.</li> <li>• Young people (aged 2 to 16) are much more likely than those aged 17+ to be the first case in the household. In particular, those aged 12 to 16 are nearly 7 times as likely to be the first case in their household compared to those 17+ and those under 12, 3 times more likely compared to those 17+.</li> <li>• The 'relative transmissibility' means passing the virus on to others. This is more than twice as likely in children (both under 12 and 12-16) compared to adults.</li> <li>• SAGE states: "accumulating evidence is consistent with increased transmission occurring amongst school children when schools are open, particularly in children of secondary school age.</li> <li>• SAGE states: "multiple data sources show a reduction in transmission in children following schools closing for half term, and transmission rates increasing again following the post-half term return to school.</li> <li>• ONS prevalence survey figures (up to 18 Dec): 1 in 50 (2%) children aged 2-10 and 1 in 33 (3%) secondary-school aged children had COVID 19. Higher than all other groups aged 25 and above.</li> <li>• Modellers from the SAGE modelling subgroup estimate that even under national Tier 4, another 100,000 people could die before the end of June 2021.</li> </ul>						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nursery children to access remote learning unless key worker or vulnerable.</li> <li>• Support families with any technology restraints so their children can access remote learning.</li> <li>• Support families with any stationery restraints so their children can access remote learning.</li> <li>• Communicate with parents the importance of minimising school numbers to keep community safe regularly.</li> </ul> <p><b>Limit the number of staff on site:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Clinically Extremely Vulnerable staff to work from home.</li> <li>• Pregnant staff advised to work from home.</li> <li>• Clinically vulnerable teaching staff (with underlying life affecting medical conditions) to work from home where possible.</li> <li>• Teaching staff with young children to work from home.</li> <li>• Ensure regular support for IT issues available to all.</li> <li>• Staff who choose to come into school to work rather than at home remotely for mental health-wellbeing may do so.</li> </ul> <p><b>All other additional health and safety protocols and control measure to be implemented in-line with rest of main risk assessment.</b></p> <p><b>Additional measures to supplement risk assessment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daily numbers of key worker and vulnerable children to be shared with staff to ensure planned safety measures.</li> <li>• Face coverings to be worn by adults (not children) outside at dropping off and collection times.</li> <li>• Face coverings to be worn by staff save when impractical eg eating</li> <li>• Support staff to wear visors in classroom when 2m social distance cannot be adhered to.</li> <li>• Support staff working with children to remain within 2m designated zone at the front of the classroom.</li> <li>• At least one window and internal doors to be open in classrooms.</li> <li>• Enhanced cleaning regime will remain, despite reduction in numbers</li> </ul> <p><b>Risk Assessment to be reviewed on weekly basis.</b></p>	
---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

## Scientific Sources:

1. Mitigations to Reduce Transmission of the new variant SARS-COV-2 virus SAGE-EMG, SPI-B, Transmission Group, 23 December 2020.
2. SAGE papers dated 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2020 and released for publication on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020.
3. Report from London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine from 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2020.
4. 74 SAGE meeting on COVID-19, 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2020.
5. Children's Task and Finish Group update to 4<sup>th</sup> November 2020 paper on Children, Schools and Transmission. This was considered at SAGE 74 meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2020 and published 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020.
6. ONS Coronavirus (Covid-19) roundup. Latest data updated 8<sup>th</sup> January 2021.