

Risk Assessment for Full Opening of Grendon CE Primary School

On 22nd February 2021, the DfE announced their intention for all pupils, in all year groups to return to school full-time from Monday 8th March 2021. The prevalence of Covid-19 has decreased and it is the DfE's position that returning to school on March 8th is vital for children's education and well-being. Time away from school is detrimental for children's cognitive and academic development, particularly for disadvantaged children and those with SEN.

¹ DfE Guidance: Schools coronavirus (Covid-19) operational guidance

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/963541/Schools_coronavirus_operational_guidance.pdf

² DfE Guidance: Coronavirus (Covid-19): implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings>

³ Covid-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>

⁴ Covid-19: cleaning in non-healthcare settings

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings>

⁵ NHS Coronavirus (Covid 19) information site

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

⁶ Covid-19: getting tested

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested>

⁷ Rapid lateral flow testing for households and bubbles of school pupils and staff

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_source=16f2f8fa-e677-4d06-a24b-ea604e02c92a&utm_content=immediately

This risk assessment is a statutory document and is applicable only from Monday 8th March 2021. It will be reviewed weekly after this time and may be updated to reflect any further guidance issued by the DfE. Control measures within the risk assessment bring the residual risk rating to 'low'.

	Control Measures	Residual Risk Rating
<p>Reducing Covid-19 transmission:</p> <p>for a child becoming unwell in the setting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a pupil displays Coronavirus symptoms [new, continuous cough or high temperature or a loss or change in sense of taste or smell] they will be isolated and sent home immediately, with parents directed to follow government³ and NHS⁵ guidance, including the DfE guidance to get tested⁶ • The library is the designated isolation room but may be used for other activities, such as group interventions. • A staff member working with the group containing a symptomatic child will use PPE (facemask, apron and gloves) and supervise the child in the isolation room at a distance of 2m where possible and with the window open until they can safely leave school. • Government guidance⁴ will be followed to ensure the adequate cleaning of the room by the member of staff involved in the case. This will include disinfecting surfaces, washing hands and double bagging/storing waste for 72 hours. • Anyone else within the group does not need to go home unless they display symptoms. • A subsequent negative test means that the pupil/adult can return to the setting. • Everyone who has contact with an unwell pupil/adult must wash their hands 	<p>Low</p>
<p>Reducing Covid-19 transmission:</p> <p>for a confirmed case of Covid-19 in the setting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If someone tests positive, they should follow DfE guidance³ and self-isolate from the date of the positive test or from the onset of symptoms (whichever comes first) and then for 10 full days after that, with other members of the same household self-isolating for 10 full days. • The school will immediately contact the DfE Helpline number: 0800 046 8687 (option 1) for advice on the action to take in response to a positive case. If, following triage, further expert advice is required, the adviser will escalate your call to the local health protection team (HPT) who can be contacted on 0344 2254 524 (option 1) or 0344 2254 524 (out of hours) who will conduct a risk assessment with school to determine next steps. • DfE guidance states: <i>'those people who have been in close contact with the person who tested positive'</i> must go home and self-isolate for 10 days. School will list those who have had close contact with the affected person. • Household members of those who are sent home (without symptoms) are not required to self-isolate. • If a person who has been sent home due to close contact develops Covid-19 symptoms, they must get tested. If they subsequently test positive, they should inform school immediately. If they test negative, they should still self-isolate for the remainder of the 10 day period because <i>'they could still develop'</i> Covid-19 • The school must not release the names or details of those people with Coronavirus. • Anyone testing positive should be prepared to provide details, when asked by NHS Test and Trace, of anyone that they come into contact with. • 2 or more confirmed cases may indicate an outbreak and HPT will advise and support accordingly. 	<p>Low</p>

	Control Measures	Residual Risk Rating
<p>Reducing Covid-19 transmission:</p> <p>at the start and end of the school day</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents and visitors may not enter the school building • Parents may access the playground via the front and rear entrance but must not congregate or wait along the narrow path leading from the front pedestrian access gate. This area is clearly marked as a no waiting zone. • Staggered drop off (8.45-9.15am) and collection (3.15-3.30pm) times will continue to ease congestion. • Only one parent of each child should enter the school site for the purpose of school drop off/pick up • Parents instructed to drop off/pick up children in the playground and leave the school site promptly • Parents are requested to observe Covid-19 rules at all times • All children enter their classroom immediately on arrival where they will be greeted by a member of staff • At home time, pupils will remain in the classroom and be dismissed one at a time to minimise congestion • All childcare provision will resume (morning supervision from 8.30am and after-school childcare starting again from March 8th). Wherever possible, the 4 distinct school bubbles will be maintained in these settings. • Pupils will be forbidden from using school equipment outside of school hours due to the risk of cross contamination • For children self-isolating due to displaying symptoms of Covid-19, parents are requested to share confirmation of the negative test result with school prior to their child(ren) returning to school. • School request that any positive test results of pupils or members of their household are shared with school promptly 	<p>Low</p>
<p>Reducing Covid-19 transmission:</p> <p>between home and school</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anybody displaying symptoms must not to come to school as per government guidance³ • All staff and pupils to wash hands on arrival at and before leaving school • Any deliveries to school will require social distancing measures to be observed • Essential repairs will only take place in secure, cordoned off areas, with all hygiene measures respected • Children should bring in lunchbox/snack, water bottle and a coat, reading book and Home Communication Book. • Pupils should not bring bags. Schools will instead use a A4 plastic wallet (Years 3-6) or Book Bags (EY and KS1). • There will be no physical access to the school office. Instead all enquiries should be made via email and phone • PPE will be available as an emergency precaution for suspected cases • Staff will get in close proximity of pupils if their duty of care demands it eg; to administer first aid • Given the layout of the school and the deployment of staff within it, it is not appropriate to mandate the wearing of face coverings in any part of the school, although staff are supported to wear face coverings if they so choose. • Staff do not need to do anything other than normal personal hygiene and washing of clothes • DfE guidance states pupils' <i>'uniforms do not need to be cleaned any more often or differently than usual.'</i> • All staff and parents⁷ are encouraged to engage with the twice-weekly Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing programme 	<p>Low</p>

	Control Measures	Residual Risk Rating
<p>Reducing Covid-19 transmission:</p> <p>by controlling movement around school</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils will access one classroom where they will remain for the vast majority of the day • Children will leave their classroom only to access toilets, outdoor space (breaks and outdoor lessons), for administration of medication/first aid and for group or individual interventions • PE will initially only take place outside and will not include contact sports • Classes to use own external doors to access the playground <p><i>Toilets</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only one child per class/group to be authorised to use the toilet at any one time • Floor markings will be placed outside toilets for pupils to observe if there is a queue. • Children reminded to wash hands for 20 seconds after each toilet visit <p><i>Hall</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be no assemblies in the hall • Packed lunches will be eaten in classrooms with hot meals mainly served in the hall. Children having hot meals will go directly into the hall and sit at the designated table to ensure social distancing can be promoted. In some instances, hot meals may be served in classrooms. Staff members will serve and collect plates/cups to prevent congestion and unnecessary close contact between pupils <p><i>Office</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff and pupils should not enter the office unless it is absolutely necessary • Messages between the office and classrooms to take place only via telephone/email, with electronic registers used to minimise contact. <p><i>Staffroom</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member of staff should continue to use the staffroom provided that social-distancing measures are observed at all times. DfE recognises that whilst the staffroom should be used minimally, staff must still have their allocated breaks during the day. • Staff may choose to use their own cups, cutlery, plates and dishes and keep these washed and stored appropriately. • Staff are reminded to avoid all close contact with adults and minimise close contact with pupils, particularly those outside their designated bubble 	<p style="text-align: center;">Low</p>

	Control Measures	Residual Risk Rating
<p>Reducing Covid-19 transmission:</p> <p>at other times of the school day</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A clear and enhanced cleaning schedule is in place to include the daily cleaning of all rooms/areas used in school [including door handles, tables, chairs, light switches and any large structures/resources]. Lidded bins will be situated in each classroom for disposal of tissues • Cleaning 'stations' including alcohol (70%) wipes, disinfectant spray and hand sanitiser will be positioned in each classroom and key areas around school with regularly used surfaces/items cleaned between uses. • A designated hand washing station or sink is available to each of the 4 core groups of pupils • For the majority of their time in school, children will be limited to their class groups • Pupils will wash hands on arrival to and before departing school and before and after activities, including eating • Children will be regularly reminded not to touch their face and to 'catch, bin and kill' sneezes and coughs • Where children cannot independently manage their own hygiene, they will be supported to do so by an adult. PPE (facemask, apron and gloves) should be used by staff when involved in 'intimate care' of pupils. • Teachers should continue marking work as per school policy and children can access reading books from a class set • Where possible, pupils will work side by side (and facing the front of the room) as opposed to facing each other, although the layout of the school, age of children and nature of activity mean that will not always be possible • The DfE guidance states that: <i>'All staff can operate across different groups in order to facilitate the timetable'</i>. Interventions (individual and group) will resume and may include children from different groups. Communal learning spaces may be used but are timetabled to avoid clashes. • Internal doors will be open where possible to aid ventilation and minimise contact with handles. • DfE advise that windows should be opened during the day [in cooler weather windows opened just enough to provide constant background ventilation] and after each school day for an hour to allow thorough ventilation of school. • There are no restrictions that limit the school's scope to create learning environments to reflect our curriculum themes and so classrooms should once again be designed with this in mind. • Children continue to be provided with their own individual equipment eg; pens, pencils • Outdoor learning is promoted at every opportunity. Outdoor space will be 'zoned' so that multiple groups can work/play outside simultaneously. The zones will include the EY space [for Nursery and Reception only], Quiet Garden, Woodland Hideout, Main Playground and 2 zones which will be marked on the grass bank. • All breaks will be staggered so that no two groups occupy the same zone on the main playground at the same time • Within their designated bubble, <i>'it is acceptable for children not to distance.'</i> • First aid will be administered on the playground wherever possible • The Castle climbing area will be cordoned off and unavailable for children to use until further notice • Outdoor equipment should not be used unless staff clean them between use • Consistent with updated DfE guidance, external professionals eg; music tutors, and volunteers will resume their roles in school whilst adhering to the school's risk assessment. Volunteers will work within one bubble only. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Low</p>

	Control Measures	Residual Risk Rating
<p>Reducing Covid-19 transmission:</p> <p>for vulnerable pupils and those with SEN</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interventions and support for 1:1 arrangements will be provided and may take place in classrooms and communal learning spaces • Intervention spaces will be cleaned at the end of each session by the member of staff in charge of the group. • The government advises any child who meets the criteria of being extremely clinically vulnerable '<i>can return to their educational settings.</i>' Unless they have been advised specifically by their GP to stay off school. 	<p>Low</p>