

Covid-19 Risk Assessment
Nursling C of E Primary School
Updated November 2021



Love, Hope & Courage

Preamble

Since January 2020, the Coronavirus pandemic has had an unprecedented impact on the country. Tier systems and national lockdowns impacted on the education system and children's education.

Lockdown #1

23rd March – 22nd July 2020

Schools only open for keyworker children to attend critical care. Families remained at home and supported their children's learning. At this time, Nursling did not have a VLE but used the website to make work available for the children to do.

2019/2020	Days taught in school	Remote learning
Autumn Term	37 + 34 = 71 days	
Spring Term	29 + 19 = 48 days	10 days
Summer Term		24 + 37 = 61 days
Totals	119 days	71 days

In between Lockdown #1 & #3, the countries Tier system shut down different parts of the country to varying degrees. The second National lockdown, schools remained open to all children who attended school in Bubble groups. Staggered drop off times and pick up times were introduced. Nursling introduced it's VLE platform to enable families who were self-isolating to access school work on laptops and other devices.

Lockdown # 3

5th January – 8th March

2020/2021	Days taught in school	Remote learning
Autumn Term	35 + 35 = 70 days	
Spring Term	1 + days	29 +
Summer Term		
Totals	71 days	

DfE Guidance for Schools Updated November 2021

This updated guidance is intended to support schools, both mainstream and alternative provision. It applies to primary, secondary (including sixth forms), infant, junior, middle, upper, school-based nurseries and boarding schools. We expect independent schools to follow the control measures set out in this document in the same way as state-funded schools. The guidance also covers expectations for children with special educational needs and disability (SEND), including those with education, health and care plans, in mainstream schools.

The link to new guidance is as follows:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1036663/Schools_guidance_update_for_Omicron_-_29_Nov.pdf

Separate guidance is available for early years, further education colleges and for special schools, as follows:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/step-4-update-what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges>

The government continues to manage the risk of serious illness from the spread of the virus. The Prime Minister announced on 27 November the temporary introduction of new measures as a result of the Omicron variant. These measures are precautionary, while the variant is tracked and assessed.

As a result, we are reflecting these measures in this guidance for schools, most directly a temporary recommendation on the wearing of face coverings in schools and changes to isolation requirements for confirmed and suspected cases of the Omicron variant and their contacts. This advice remains subject to change as the situation develops. COVID-19 continues to be a virus that we learn to live with and the imperative to reduce the disruption to children and young people's education remains.

Our priority is for you to deliver face-to-face, high-quality education to all pupils. The evidence is clear that being out of education causes significant harm to educational attainment, life chances, mental and physical health. We have worked closely with the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and the United Kingdom Health Security Agency (UKHSA) to revise this guidance.

The following points have been lifted directly from this updated guidance.

Mixing and bubbles

We do not recommend that it is necessary to keep children in consistent groups ('bubbles'). This means that 'bubbles' will not need to be used in schools. As well as enabling flexibility in curriculum delivery, this means that assemblies can resume and you do not need to make alternative arrangements to avoid mixing at lunch. You should make sure your contingency plans (sometimes called outbreak management plans) cover the possibility that it may become necessary to reintroduce 'bubbles' for a temporary period, to reduce mixing between groups. Any decision to recommend the reintroduction of 'bubbles' would not be taken lightly and would need to take account of the detrimental impact they can have on the delivery of education.

Tracing close contacts and isolation

Close contacts in schools are now identified by NHS Test and Trace and education settings are not expected to undertake contact tracing.

Stepping measures up and down

You should have contingency plans (sometimes called outbreak management plans) outlining what you would do if children, pupils, students or staff test positive for COVID19, or how you would operate if you were advised to take extra measures to help break chains of transmission. Given the detrimental impact that restrictions on education can have on children and young people, any measures in schools should only ever be considered as a last resort, kept to the minimum number of schools or groups possible, and for the shortest amount of time possible.

Control measures

You should:

1. Ensure good hygiene for everyone.
2. Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes.
3. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.
4. Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.

Attendance 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.

Remote education

Where appropriate, you should support those who need to self-isolate to work or learn from home if they are well enough to do so.

School workforce

School leaders are best placed to determine the workforce required to meet the needs of their pupils. Social distancing measures ended in the workplace on 19 July and the government is not advising people to work from home. The shielding programme has now come to an end and adults previously considered CEV should, as a minimum, continue to follow the same guidance as everyone else. It is important that everyone adheres to this guidance but people previously considered CEV may wish to consider taking extra precautions.

Educational visits

You should undertake full and thorough risk assessments in relation to all educational visits and ensure that any public health advice, such as hygiene and ventilation requirements, is included as part of that risk assessment.

Accountability expectations

We will not publish data based on exam and assessment results from summer 2021 in performance tables and you will not be held to account for this data.

The link to access this document in full is:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1036663/Schools_guidance_update_for_Omicron_-_29_Nov.pdf

Health & Safety Risk Assessment

School	Nursling C of E Primary School	Location	Nursling Street, Nursling, SO16 0XH
Assessed by	Mrs J Jearrad	Last Updated	30 th November 2021
Details of workplace	School based activities and working on the premises will include: classroom based activities, play times, dining, first aid, picking up and dropping off, wrap around care, maintenance activities.	People who may be harmed	Employees, pupils, parents, volunteers, contractors, visitors.

Hazards & Risks	Control Measures	Risk Level (Very high, high, medium, low)	Further Actions √ or X at this time Reviewed following the Prime Ministers announcements.
Spread/contraction of COVID-19 due to interaction with a person who has symptoms of the disease, a person who may be asymptomatic or lack of information on how infection risks are controlled in the provision.	The school has informed parents, students, carers, employees, sports providers and visitors not to enter the school if they are displaying any symptoms of coronavirus (following the COVID-19 guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection).	Low	X
	Through weekly briefings, staff are kept up to date on other related guidance and support in relation to themselves and students such as stress and wellbeing.	Low	X
	Parents of SEN students with EHCPs or those with medical needs are supported by the school SENCo. Individual children have been risk assessed according to individual needs. Vulnerable children will be able to wear masks in school during times of increased Covid cases in the school / local community.	Low	X

	Employees have had sufficient training and briefing regarding infection control and school protocols.	Low	X
	Staff/Sports Providers are briefed on school procedures and the plans for re-entry of Critical Worker/Vulnerable children.	Low	X
	Critical Worker/Vulnerable children's parents receive guidance on the provision times for their child and protocols set out for attending the provision i.e. social distancing encouraged, should follow staff members instruction and should not congregate outside the school.	Low	X
	Information given to staff and sports providers through discussions and briefing notes about the protocols for the Provision offered (E.g. safety measures, lunch, fresh air breaks, etc) have taken place.	Low	X
	Member of staff identified to be the Covid Coordinator to organise testing, records and logs.	Low	X
	LFD testing twice a week to all members of staff who work in the school on a regular basis including: all employees, cleaners, kitchen staff & sports providers.	Low	X
	Working from home if appropriate and when agreed with the Headteacher.	Low	X
	Employees are required to be aware of social distancing to ensure social areas of the school do not become overcrowded.	Low	X
	School offices are either reduced in occupation or desks are positioned in order to provide adequate separation or staff are moved to other areas to reduce contact;	Low	X
	Staff rooms are not to be entered if more than 4 people are already occupying the space during times of increased Covid cases in school / local community.	Low	X
	Staff are encouraged to eat keeping a suitable distance from others	Low	X

	Students will practice social distancing from staff (appropriate to their age) during times of increased Covid cases in the school / local community.	Low	X
	Employees will be provided with and wear PPE when required in accordance with Government guidance	Low	X
	As part of contingency planning, during times of increased Covid cases in the school / local community and the lack of teaching staff, different groups of children may have to come together to be taught in school with increased cleaning and ventilation and wearing of masks for adults mandatory.	Low	X
	The instalment of Co2 monitors into every classroom and the staffroom monitors to ensure areas are ventilated well. A green light indicates good ventilation. An orange light indicates normal ventilation and a window should be opened. A red light indicates poor ventilation and both windows and doors should be opened.	Low	X
Stress, anxiety and mental health caused due to lack of support, information or staff consultation.	Staff kept informed through weekly briefing meetings to ensure all information is clear and received in good time to enable plans to be made.	Low	X
	School will keep to routines as much as possible, embedding, with expected support from parents, restorative justice practice where children know to be aware of the impact of their actions and behaviour towards others.	Low	X
	Pupils will have experienced different challenges with lockdown experiences being varied. All safeguarding and Child Protection procedures will continue to be followed. School offer ELSA and FEIPS support when identified by members of staff.	Low	x
	It has been noticed that parents / carers are experiencing increased anxiety through the tone of some email communications. The school will endeavour to keep communication clear and in advance, although this is not always possible. Newsletters will continue to encourage kindness during	Low	x

	these uncertain times. Parents & carers signposted to supporting groups/professionals as identified.		
	Established working relationships and support with Romsey area school nursing team.	Low	X
	Contact with social workers and other professionals is strong and has been continuous through term time and school holidays. School are made aware of any issues involving the Police outside of school through Operation Encompass.	Low	X
	Every class will have methods for letting children share their thoughts and views within their class, and opportunities to request to speak 1:1 to a member of staff if they want to. Suggestion boxes, card systems and other written/electronic methods may also support this.	Low	X
	There are communication, consultation and support networks in place for staff and if there are particular concerns staff can raise them quickly and effectively.	Low	X
	Keeping in touch virtual meetings, emails and phone calls to take place for regular contact.	Low	X
	Well-being Whatsapp Group for whole staff team put in place to keep contact and boost essence of 'team' with focus being non-work related and fun.	Low	X
	Guidance on rules, routines, expectations of behaviour and consequences/sanctions have been shared with all staff.	Low	X
	Classes will start each new academic year by agreeing rules and codes of conduct. These sit alongside our school rules and link to specific Covid 19 relevant guidance.	Low	X
	Teachers and all staff should practise routines such as queuing and waiting safely, returning from break, walking in the corridor to ensure high expectations of behaviour at all times.	Low	X
	The school rules and behaviour policy remain the same, individual age appropriate class interpretations of this will provide a context response to the Covid19 measures. A positive behaviour response, with sanctions and periods of reflection for not	Low	X

	following the rules will continue to be used. Any behaviour which puts other staff or pupils at risk will lead to teachers swiftly communicating with parents to ensure that pupils can reintegrate into school life successfully, but also that everyone in school can be and feel safe.		
Spread/contraction of COVID-19 due to lack of social distancing measures during the school day including: Drop off / entry to the school.	The wearing of masks on-site is made mandatory in the event of a rise in positive cases in school or the school / local community.	Low	X
	School encourages only one parent/ carer to be on site to drop off or collect their child. Secondary school pupils are not allowed on-site unless express permission has been given.	Low	X
	Parents are aware that they should only come into air-lock when strictly necessary with communication being kept to telephone and email as much as possible.	Low	X
	One-way system in place and well signposted and must be followed. Entering through blue main gate, exiting through back field gate. Regular reminders in the Weekly Newsletter.	Low	X
	Staggered start times and finish times depending on house group. A shorter lunch break will balance out an earlier end to the day.	Low	X
	Parents are not allowed inside the school building and must remain socially distanced on the path as child enters classroom through door facing field.	Low	X
	Congregation of parents and children is not encouraged meaning parents/carers must not communicate with staff face-to-face but online and via school office.	Low	X
Spread/contraction of COVID-19 due to lack of social distancing measures during the school day including: Classroom use / activities.	Individuals are encouraged to remain socially distanced from other individuals within the school	Low	X
	Hand washing is completed on entrance to the allocated room/s and between specific activities	Low	X
	Students are allocated resources and are not encouraged to share	Low	X
	Student desks are assigned	Low	X

	Individual student packs with equipment is provided for each pupil to keep at their designated desk	Low	X
	Students are only allowed to bring essential items into school including coats, hats and lunchboxes	Low	X
	Students are regularly reminded not to touch their faces and to wash their hands and to use hand sanitizer.	Low	X
	All classrooms have cleaning equipment provided for increased cleaning during the day	Low	X
	All classrooms have anti-bacterial hand gel provided for use during the day. Always used on classroom entry	Low	X
	Classrooms kept well ventilated with open windows and doors	Low	X
	Use of outdoor space and PE will be prioritised, with staff and pupils prepared for wet weather. On occasion, pupils will be told to arrive in school with PE kits will mean that changing is not necessary and children are prepared for all activities	Low	X
	Resources kept to a minimum and any resources used for activities cleaned down at the end of the day	Low	X
	During times of increased cases in school, the main corridor is only to be used by children transitioning to and from the toilet and 2m social distancing marked out on floor to be abided by.	Low	X
	Library use managed and supervised in line with SLA library risk assessment	Low	X
	Educational visits are only considered if authorised to go ahead and thoroughly risk assessed to include risk of transmission of Coronavirus.	Low	X
	Extra curricular clubs are kept to a minimum so space in school is used sensibly.	Low	X
Spread/contraction of COVID-19 due to lack of social distancing measures during the school day when dining.	If eating in the hall, tables are cleaned before and after each group's lunch	Low	
	If eating in a classroom, children remain in their allocated seat to eat, tables are cleaned before and after eating	Low	

	Students are advised to clean hands before and after eating lunch in the allocated room.	Low	X
Spread/contraction of COVID-19 due to lack of hand-washing and general poor hygiene.	All those entering the school are required to wash/sanitise their hands. Sanitiser in the airlock and at the Reception desk when signing in.	Low	X
	Children taught how to effectively wash their hands using the Happy Birthday song as a guide	Low	X
	Classes are allocated toilet times with extra cleaning after use	Low	X
	Hand washing sinks are located within each toilet provision	Low	X
	Signage is located by each sink reminding occupants to wash their hands.	Low	X
	Help is available for children and young people who have trouble cleaning their hands independently	Low	X
	Sanitiser is for use in all classrooms and office spaces and kept topped up by the cleaning staff at the end of every day	Low	X
	Hand washing encouraged at key times including after break, lunch and PE, especially after handling equipment	Low	X
	Ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach Tissues and bins are supplied in every classroom	Low	X
	Cleaning hours have been increased and include regular cleaning of surfaces, touch points and toilets throughout the day. Cloths and sprays provided in every classroom, hall and office areas.	Low	X
	When contingency planning is enforced, Pupils will remain at their own table throughout the day to significantly reduce the risk of cross contamination, apart from break times and outdoor activities.	Low	X
	PPE is only needed in cases where a child becomes ill with Covid 19 symptoms in school and social distancing cannot be maintained, or where established intimate care needs involve the use of PPE. School will make supplies of PPE available to staff –	Low	X

	both provided by the government as well as additional supplies purchased by ourselves		
	<p>Vigilant monitoring of staff/pupils who are symptomatic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature) • a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual) • a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia) 	Low	X
	School will take swift action when we become aware that someone who has attended has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19). School will contact the local health protection team and DFE helpline and follow their direction. School will follow local health protection team advice in order to contain any outbreak.	High	Action Plan in place for all staff to follow
Risks to pupil learning, attainment and achievement	<p>If a child is self-isolating due to a positive Covid PCR test, remote education will continue to be high quality and provided immediately when needed. Support for vulnerable and SEND pupils will be provided with support to enable all to make significant progress this school year.</p> <p>Year R will use Tapestry to share learning and news from school and from home, complete assessments, engage with families, as well as share home learning and extended learning where appropriate and necessary.</p> <p>In Years 1-6, Google Classroom areas will be maintained for every class. It will be kept live but the stream/comments will be unavailable during the Summer holidays.</p>	Low	X

	Where there are significant gaps in knowledge / understanding, these areas will be prioritised before content and objectives from the current year group are addressed with pupils. NFER testing will continue to be used to inform teacher's understanding of gaps in knowledge. School will monitor and review patterns of attendance and respond by putting in place additional support where necessary.		
	Covid catch up funding will be used to employ staff to enable high quality intervention work to take place. The need to cover classes will be prioritised in the event of staff absence.	Low	X
	Ofsted reported our Curriculum as broad and ambitious. Remote education will continue to be high quality and provided immediately when needed. Support for vulnerable and SEND pupils will be provided with differentiated tasks to enable all to have the opportunity to make good progress this school year.	Low	X
	We will not remove subjects from our curriculum but will adjust timings and allocation to ensure that the most important content for progression is prioritised.	Low	X
	For any pupils at home, the online learning will reflect, as much as possible, what pupils cover in school, as well as making use of Government advised online resources such as BBC Bitesize and the Oak Academy. In the event of outbreaks or periods of self-isolation, remote education will be in place immediately.	Low	X
Spread/contraction of COVID-19 due to insufficient First aid measures or poor arrangements when handling student's medication. This includes: • Dealing with general First aid; • Lack of trained first aiders;	The first aid room/area is cleaned frequently and after each use (when first aid care has been provided).	Low	X
	Staff dispensing medication to students should minimise contact and their wash hands before and after dispensing the medication. If required, gloves will be worn by staff when giving medication	Low	X
	Qualified first aiders are in place at an appropriate ratio for paediatric first aiders for Early Years	Low	X
	The school has a specific room/area dedicated for suspected cases of COVID-19. Where an individual exhibits symptoms during the, the Critical Worker/Vulnerable children provision, an	Low	X

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dealing with a suspected case of Covid-19; • Inappropriate handling/removal of clinical waste • Intimate care procedures. 	<p>individual will be escorted to the Isolation Room/Area to isolate them from the main population until additional medical assistance can be gained. This may be 111 support, an ambulance or until they leave the site to self-isolate;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff escorting the individual will be provided with disposable gloves and apron if the 2 metre social distancing rule cannot be maintained. Where the risk of contact with droplets to the face, e.g. from coughing or vomiting, face protection should be provided • The allocated room where the individual leaves will be subject to a hard surface clean with appropriate disinfectant products and all waste double bagged and stored securely for 72 hours before disposal. • Staff or contractors carrying out the area clean should be provided with a minimum of disposable gloves, aprons, mop heads or paper towels. • Where visible contamination, e.g. saliva droplets, is present face protection in the form of mask, goggles or face shield will be provided. • All building users advised re monitoring their own health, reporting of symptoms and self-isolating 		
	<p>Waste control measure from possible cases of COVID-19 and cleaning of areas where possible cases have been identified (including disposable cloths and tissues) are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Put in a plastic rubbish bag and tied when full; • The plastic bag is placed in a second bin bag and tied; • It is put in a suitable and secure place and marked for storage until the individual's test results are known; • Waste is stored safely and kept away from children; • Waste is not put in communal waste areas until negative test results are known or the waste has been stored for at least 72 hours; 	Low	X

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the individual tests negative, this can be put in with the normal waste; • If the individual tests positive, then waste is stored for at least 72 hours and then put in with the normal waste 		
Lack of staffing / insufficient staff ratios	Adequate ratio of staff to children will be maintained and is assessed on a daily basis, based on potential staff illness or self-isolation	Low	X
	Children are suitably supervised at all times.	Low	X
	In the event of a Bubble closure, remote learning via VLE will take place.	Low	X
Hazardous substances management, unsuitable COSHH management and unsafe use of chemicals leading to ill health, environmental contamination or fire.	<p>Suitable storage and management of flammable hand sanitizer is in place;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All chemicals used for the cleaning of school buildings and equipment is COSHH assessed and managed appropriately; • All cleaning chemicals are stored safely and securely in accordance with requirements; • COSHH safety training has been completed by all those using chemicals for cleaning; • Appropriate PPE is available for all cleaning including suitable PPE for cleaning of potential coronavirus contaminated rooms or equipment 	Low	X
Fire and evacuation procedures being inadequate at this time due to lack of trained fire wardens or occupants being spread around the building without suitable procedures in place.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All fire system testing and maintenance has continued as normal. • Safe assembly points for occupants following social distancing requirements; • Safe exit via the nearest available final exit; 	Low	X