

Risk Assessment – COVID-19 (v3.4)	28 August 2021	Walthamstow Academy
Responsible Person	Emma Skae, Principal	
Other Persons Involved	Rachael Spain (ASBM), Beria Hassan (ASBM), Paul Tannahill (NEU), Lisa Hostick (NEU), Geoff Skewes (CoG)	
Guidance Material Considered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DfE – Schools COVID-19 operational guidance - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) (27 August) • DfE - Actions for early years and childcare providers during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak (17 August) • DfE - Protective measures for holiday and after-school clubs, and other out-of-school settings during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak (27 August) • DfE - Safe working in education, childcare and children’s social care (20 July) • PHE - COVID-19: cleaning in non-healthcare settings outside the home (19 July) • DfE Asymptomatic Testing Procedures and Guidance – available through the DfE portal (secondary) and DfE portal (primary) 	

Details	DFE Coronavirus Helpline 0800 046 8687
<p>A risk assessment covering school/setting operation from September 2021</p> <p>A revised system of control measures is in effect</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. <p>The symptoms of COVID-19 are a new and continuous cough, or a high temperature, or a loss of or change in a person’s normal sense of taste or smell</p>	

Hazard	Who is at Risk	How Can the Hazards Cause Harm	Control Measures Currently in Place
Infection Control (people)	Staff, Pupils, Visitors	Staff contracting COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff who are required to quarantine having recently visited a country outside the common travel area will not come into school • Staff are encouraged to take part in asymptomatic testing • Any staff member with symptoms of COVID-19 is sent home and instructed to undertake a PCR test • Where an LFD test returns a positive result the staff member must self-isolate and arrange a PCR test • Anyone having to go home will be encouraged to not use public transport where this is applicable • Where a PCR test returns a positive result: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The staff member must notify the school of the test result immediately ○ The staff member self-isolates in line with self-isolation guidance ○ The school will review the case against the Group guidance on <i>COVID-19 and ARMS</i>. • If the PCR test result is negative the staff member can return to school when they feel well enough to do so. • Staff are encouraged to continue twice weekly home testing in line with PHE/DfE guidance whenever they are due to come into school • Any fully vaccinated staff identified as close contacts of a positive case are advised to carry out a PCR test and are also advised to carry out an LFD test each day prior to attending work
		Pupils contracting COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any pupil with symptoms of COVID-19 is told to self-isolate and undertake a PCR test. The pupil/parents are instructed to notify the school of the test result. A negative PCR test result means the pupil can return to school. • Anyone having to go home will be encouraged to not use public transport where this is applicable • Clinically extremely vulnerable pupils can attend unless under specific medical advice not to do so • Pupils/children who are required to quarantine having recently visited a county outside the common travel area must not come into school • Pupils will be invited to take two asymptomatic tests at the school's on-site testing centre prior to the start of the new year. After this, pupils are encouraged to continue twice weekly testing in line with PHE/DfE guidance. • Where an LFD test returns a positive result the pupil will self-isolate and be advised to arrange a PCR test, continuing to self-isolate if the result is positive.
Suspected / confirmed case in school	Staff/ pupils	Potential contamination of surfaces and for person to person spread	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupil/staff member sent home and instructed to arrange a PCR test. • Pupils with symptoms are isolated in a dedicated room with an open window if possible. Any rooms used will be cleaned once they have left. • Cleaning and disinfection of the area is carried out in accordance with DfE guidance COVID-19: cleaning of non-healthcare settings

Infection Control (practices)	Staff, Pupils, Visitors	Operational practices in place to minimise the risk of the spread of infection	<p><u>Good Hand and Respiratory Hygiene</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hands are cleaned regularly by all pupils, staff members and visitors and soap and running water or hand sanitiser is readily available for this purpose. • 'Catch-it, bin-it, kill-it', promoted throughout school. • Masks are optional for all
			<p><u>Cleaning</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A cleaning schedule is in place with an emphasis on frequently touched surfaces • Cleaning following confirmed/suspected case carried out in accordance with PHE guidance COVID-19: cleaning of non-healthcare settings
			<p><u>Outbreak Management Plan (Contingency Plan)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mechanisms are in place for the rapid deployment of enhanced control measures, e.g. face coverings, bubbles, should the school be advised to do so by a relevant body (central government, Local Director of Public Health). The following questions and points will be considered at the point of the outbreak based on the nature and scale of the outbreak and based on advice from PHE - everything is set up and has been designed for immediate action. Actions increase in 'severity' as we go down the list. This action will be communicated to staff and parents via email and to students via tutors / assembly and the speed at which actions will be put in place will depend on the situation and the advice from PHE at the time: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Consult with public health for advice and recommendations ✓ Reminders about ventilation, cleaning, testing, hand washing, hygiene ✓ Face coverings can be reintroduced in communal areas ✓ Increased LFD testing ✓ Meetings and assemblies can be held on Teams ✓ Enhanced cleaning ✓ Parents evenings will be held remotely ✓ Review of activities that could be held outdoors ✓ Consider whether to postpone events ✓ Consider visitor protocol ✓ Staggered start and dismissal can be reintroduced ✓ Staggered break and lunch can be reintroduced ✓ Bubbles can be reintroduced ✓ Consider restricting attendance as last resort (leading to remote education for those at home)

Infection Control (premises)	Staff, Pupils, Visitors	Changes to or introduction of physical control measure to minimise the risk of the spread of infection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The whole school is kept well ventilated insofar as the ventilation systems allow and whilst maintaining a suitable teaching and working environment. Mechanical ventilation systems are set to ‘fresh air’ mode where possible. Single room ventilation systems continue to operate as normal Windows are opened where possible, where temperature allows it, and where doing so does not create undue risks. Where no mechanical ventilation is provided, windows are fully opened at least at every break time to vent the room Non-fire doors are propped open to support ventilation and to remove need for hand contact 		
Anxiety, stress and worry	Staff, pupils (parents indirectly)	Those coming to work or school may be anxious, worried or stressed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The workforce and any Union reps have been consulted in the development of this risk assessment and associated control measures This risk assessment and its findings have been shared with staff and published on the school website. Staff have access to Group’s occupational health and counselling service Staff to respect and seek to understand each other’s views about social distancing, about covid and about vaccinations – open dialogue and communication is important from the start. All staff to feel able to speak up, and line managers to facilitate and ensure that this happens 		
Failure to follow local rules	Staff, Pupil, Visitors	Persons fail to follow local rules due to lack of awareness or persons who violate local rules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All staff reminded of their duty to follow these control measures and to support staff or pupils who may fail to follow these in a constructive manner Transgressions will be escalated through existing behaviour/disciplinary arrangements 		
The school lapses in following national/ group guidelines and advice	Staff, Pupil, Visitors	Lack of awareness leads to failure to follow required controls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Important updates/changes included in CEO’s Heads Bulletins Regular key guidance updates issued by Group H&S Manager Principal to ensure that all relevant guidance is followed and communicated to staff Senior Leaders and ASBMs keep themselves up to date with advice issued by, but not limited to, DfE, NHS, Department of Health and Social Care and PHE, and review this risk assessment accordingly The LGB is kept informed on changes in guidance and school approach 		
Details of any additional control measures for consideration			Target for completion	Date of completion	Completed By
The use of CO2 detectors for identifying poorly ventilated spaces will be kept under review pending further information from DFE.			TBC		
Assessment completed by:	Emma Skae	Date:	28 August 2021	Date of next review:	1 September 2021