

Chantry Middle School Coronavirus Health and Safety Risk Assessment

Summary of changes 7th February 2022:

- Government announcement on 19/01/2021 indicates that face coverings are no longer required in secondary communal classrooms as of 20/01/2022. Face coverings in secondary communal areas continue to be advised until 27/01/2022. We implemented this advice from Monday 7th February as our student numbers isolating had dropped significantly.

In line with Schools Covid-19 Operational Guidance updated 29th November 2021, we are planning for all pupils to remain in school with enhanced restrictions due to rising numbers of positive cases. NCC sent the following [letter to Parents / Carers](#) on 22nd October 2021 as guidance to follow. However the guidance does ask that schools 'make sure your outbreak management plans cover the possibility that in some local areas it may become necessary to reintroduce 'bubbles' for a temporary period, to reduce mixing between groups'. The school has outlined what form this would take in the [Chantry Contingency \(Outbreak\)](#) Management Plan. SLT will ensure compliance with NHS test, track and trace systems and that communication with PHE is effective.

The risk assessment has been developed alongside the [Trust Risk Assessment](#), [HSE guidance](#) and [DfE guidance](#). The risk assessment should be read alongside the school plan which is [here](#).

Identify the Hazards and who is affected	Specific Focus	Control Measures
Infection - both to individuals and across a large group of staff and students and onward transmission to families and broader communities. Highest risk groups are those considered clinically extremely vulnerable or clinically vulnerable, in line with guidance from Public Health England	Classroom & Assembly arrangements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Government announcement on 19/01/2021 indicates that face coverings are no longer required in secondary communal classrooms as of 20/01/2022. Face coverings in secondary communal areas continue to be advised until 27/01/2022.• All windows and doors are to be kept open where possible to aid ventilation - please note that external doors may be used for ventilation as long as they are not fire doors and where it is safe to do so.• In any cases where areas of poor ventilation have been identified and this cannot be resolved through opening windows and doors or minor repair works, the school considers the use of air cleaning units as an additional mitigation.• Windows to be opened in all classrooms to allow ventilation. In cooler weather windows should be opened just wide enough to provide constant background ventilation.• If an individual is in a room alone the window can be closed.• Rooms without ventilation should not be in use by groups.• Good hand hygiene should be regular practice for all students/staff/visitors.• Hand washing facilities are available, hand sanitisers are also available on entry/exit to all rooms throughout the school.• The school will continue to promote good respiratory hygiene - "catch it; bin it; kill it" - there will be lidded bins in every room for tissue disposal.• Wipes or roll/disinfectant spray are to continue to be used in ICT suits on computers. Disinfectant spray only to be used if it can be kept in a safe lockable location before and after use.• Students must sit in the same place at all times. Desks and chairs must not be moved from their location.• Hand sanitiser available in every classroom.• Staff will run through these expectations with every new group and regularly reinforce them• Documents will, where possible, be shared online and paper copies kept to a minimum.• All clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) children and young people should attend unless they are one of the very small number of children and young people under paediatric or other specialist care who have been advised by their clinician or other specialist not to attend. School will ensure that key contractors are aware of the schools control measures and ways of working. <p>Cleaning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Frequently touched surfaces, door handles, push pads, bannisters, light switches, toilets will continue to be cleaned continuously throughout the

		<p>school day.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deep cleaning on request and also in the area where those with covid-19 symptoms have been isolated. • All classrooms to be cleaned each day.
	Movement around school including toilets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identified zone for year groups with access to dedicated toilets • Dedicated toilets for each Year Group during staggered breaks and lunches • Teaching staff to oversee movement on the corridors between lessons • Regular cleaning of internal doors and surfaces during the day • Hand washing is advised as the main control method ahead of hand sanitiser.
	First Aid Arrangements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify First Aiders for each day of school • Available PPE for first aiders • One Designated "Hot rooms" for children potentially showing Covid-19 symptoms (Accessible toilet ON PE corridor) • Parents are informed they will automatically have to pick up their children from this point and the child sent home immediately • Treatment for minor injuries if required but where possible self help, e.g. putting on plasters • First Aid kits are located around the school in Year group zones to support with minimal movement around the school but also to prevent any further potential of mixing of different bubbles. • Policy to contact home/ambulance for more serious injuries • PE lessons will take place but practical activities that may be classed as high risk will not
	Catering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staggered break time and lunch times <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ All year groups have their breaks at different times / different zones to prevent any potential mixing of these bubbles. • Direct Debit/school comms system in place for payment • All students hand sanitise upon entry to their eating venues. • Change of hours for our Lunch time supervisors to ensure they support the cleaning of tables etc • Staff to use alternative rest areas where possible. • Jugs of water will be provided at lunch time.
	Student pastoral and behaviour support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will operate our pastoral provision as usual with our Pastoral Mentor available to support staff when required. • Use of removal / isolation from school as required • Teaching or supervising staff to identify any concerns over student anxiety and stress, and refer to pastoral/SLT • Behaviour Policy now has a Covid-19 related section about dealing with specific poor behaviour, e.g. intentionally spitting or coughing at another person • School attendance is mandatory for all pupils of compulsory school age. Where a student is required to self-isolate or quarantine because of Covid-19 in accordance with relevant legislation or guidance published by PHE or the DHSC they should be recorded as code X.

	Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitors only in the school if essential including parents and need to be pre booked <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Wherever possible, visits will be scheduled for after school • Hand sanitiser used on entry to the building • Plastic screens now in place at the main reception • Reception staff or visit coordinator will induct visitors into school covid safe systems • Any contractors or suppliers will provide a risk assessment for their visit for approval in advance
	Staff or students in school with symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asymptomatic testing remains important in reducing the risk of transmission of infection. Asymptomatic testing is taking place for staff and students in Years 7 and 8, all NHS and government guidance is being followed. Guidance on confirmatory PCR tests is also being followed. From January 11 people who receive positive lateral flow device (LFD) test results for coronavirus (COVID-19) will be required to self-isolate immediately and won't be required to take a confirmatory PCR test. <p>Home testing Risk assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students/staff/visitors should not come into school if they have symptoms, have had a positive test result or other reasons requiring them to stay at home due to the risk of them passing on Covid-19 (for example, they are required to quarantine). • Any student that shows signs of Covid-19 is to be immediately reported; they will be isolated in a ventilated space and parents contacted so they can be removed from the site. They should avoid using public transport and PPE should be worn if close contact is necessary. • Staff are to be isolated should they show any symptoms however they will leave the site asap. <p>Dealing with a positive case and close contacts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any staff member or student with a confirmed case of COVID-19 must not attend the school setting and isolate as per government and NHS guidance. • From Monday 17 January, people who are self-isolating with COVID-19 will have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with a lateral flow device (LFD) test on both day 5 and day 6 and they do not have a temperature. For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can return to their education or childcare setting immediately on day 6. • The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period, and the second must be taken the following day. All test results should be reported to NHS Test and Trace. • If the result of either of their tests is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest. • Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests or anyone who continues to have a temperature will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation. • If staff/students are identified as a close contact they will be identified via NHS Test and Trace. NHS Test and Trace will work with the positive case to identify close contacts. Contacts will only be traced by NHS Test and Trace where the positive case specifically identifies the individual as being a close contact. • From 30th November 2021 all individuals who have been identified as a close contact of a suspected or confirmed case of the Omicron variant of COVID-19, irrespective of vaccination status and age, will be contacted directly and required to self-isolate immediately and asked to book a PCR test. They will be informed by the local health protection team or NHS Test and Trace if they fall into this category and provided details about self-isolation. • People who are fully vaccinated, or children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months, identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, should take an LFD test every day for seven days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time. • Any close contacts that develop symptoms should arrange for a PCR test without delay. This is so that any subsequent positive cases can be quickly picked up and for self isolation to begin as soon as possible. • Remind parents/staff/students of policy - provide regular updates. • Information on letters sent home to parents, staff briefings and student communications.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents to inform school immediately of any positive test of a student. • First Aid staff to deal with students in school in line with procedure. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a parent or carer insists on a pupil attending school, a decision will be made to refuse the pupil if it is necessary to protect other pupils and staff from possible infection with Covid-19. The decision would be carefully considered in light of all the circumstances and current public health advice.
	Heating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When the heating is on and a room is occupied by a group, ensure at least one window is open to allow ventilation (high level if possible, more than one window in larger spaces such as halls). • Convector heaters can only be used if the room can be well ventilated as identified above. If this cannot be implemented then the use of convector heaters will not be possible due to concerns that the air movement may spread airborne viral particles throughout the room (as per CIBSE COVID-19 Ventilation Guidance, May 2020). • If an individual is in a room alone the window can be closed. • When classrooms are not in use, windows to be opened to allow circulation of air and heating turned off, where possible.
Significant staff and student absence - illness (including mental health), self-isolation, shielding and childcare availability will impact staff and student attendance and may make the viability of running schools difficult	Staff capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School and staff to follow government guidelines for hand and respiratory hygiene, and social distancing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asymptomatic testing remains important in reducing the risk of transmission of infection. Asymptomatic testing is taking place for staff and students, all NHS and government guidance is being followed. Systems have also been put into place following government guidance. • Guidance on confirmatory PCR tests is also being followed. • Staff with symptoms or who have a confirmed PCR test should follow public health England advice. They should not come into school if they have symptoms or other reasons requiring them to stay at home due to the risk of them passing Covid-19 (for example, they are required to quarantine). • Staff will inform the Headteacher if they test positive via a PCR test and self isolate in line with government guidance. • Clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) people are advised, as a minimum, to follow the same guidance as everyone else. Additional precautions should be considered if necessary. • All staff/students without appropriate ICT facilities at home have been provided with an appropriate device. This will help students continue with appropriate learning and allow staff access to working from home, if they are well enough to do so.
Unacceptable premises safety and cleanliness standards - maintenance and cleaning standards are poor due to a period of closure, staff absence, contractor delays and poor implementation/communication of new processes	Site safety and cleanliness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statutory testing and maintenance such as water hygiene testing/flushing, gas safety, fire safety has taken place • Hand sanitiser at entry points to school • Touch points disinfected throughout the day • Additional cleaning hours (as required) to facilitate increased cleaning regime • Sufficient stocks of cleaning materials and sanitiser maintained • Additional pedal bins have been provided
	Building evacuation procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assembly point will be on front field • Staff to stagger exits from classrooms to ensure no build up at an exit point • Staff to follow the change in one way systems

	Staff safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adhere to DfE guidance on hand and respiratory hygiene. • Where possible, continue to support learning using ICT creatively. • Any staff member that shows any symptoms to inform the school and follow PHE advice; not attend and arrange a test. • Staff to follow government guidelines for self isolation if a household member tests positive for Covid-19. • Clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) people are advised, as a minimum, to follow the same guidance as everyone else. Additional precautions should be considered if necessary and risk assessments reviewed/updated. • As a minimum, frequently touched surfaces should be wiped down twice a day, and one of these should be at the beginning or the end of the working day. Cleaning should be more frequent depending on the number of people using the space. Wipes/disinfectant spray/roll will continue to be provided. • Kitchen areas around school may be used by one staff member at a time. Please practice good hand hygiene. Staff will be required to bring in their own kitchenware and cutlery and keep this with them at all times, it should not be shared. It can be washed in the sinks in staff areas in school but should be kept somewhere secure when not in use. • SLT continually leads by example around covid safe behaviours, there is also constant communication with staff and students to reinforce the messages.
Travel restrictions - school trip and public transport restrictions affecting daily school transport, school trips and staff/student holidays as well as quarantine arrangements delaying returns from holidays and school trips	School Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NCC review plans with bus operators, bus operators should have appropriate risk assessments in place covering appropriate cleaning regimes on frequently touched surfaces, ventilation of vehicles and follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of Covid-19. • On dedicated transport: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ It is recommended that children and young people aged 11 and over continue to wear a face covering when travelling to school ◦ It is no longer recommended maximising distancing and minimising mixing, but unnecessary risks such as overcrowding should be minimised • Hand hygiene, respiratory hygiene and use of PPE should be followed in line with government guidance.
	School pick up and drop off	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents advised to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ stay in their car when dropping off ◦ not to come to school - communicate with school via phone or email ◦ vacate the school premises quickly
	Start and end of the school day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students in Years 5 and 6 are lined up in their class and taken into the building to hand sanitise immediately and then to go to their classroom. • Students proceed straight to Tutor Group base on arrival in Years 7 and 8 • Hand sanitisers at all school entrances • Staff at all entry points to monitor flow of student traffic