



Coronavirus (Covid-19): Springvale Risk Assessment Sept 2021

Springvale takes its responsibilities to students, staff, visitors and the local community, extremely seriously. The wellbeing, health and safety of our community has been central to our planning. This Risk Assessment explains the actions our school leaders should take to reduce the risk of transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19) in our school. The Risk Assessment includes public health advice, endorsed by Public Health England (PHE).

Overview

In accordance with the [DFE Schools COVID-19 operational guidance](#), the Risk Assessment outlines the measures to be in place in our Schools from September 2021, unless an outbreak should occur – (see Springvale Outbreak Management Plan)

As the country moves to Step 4 of the roadmap, the government will continue to manage the risk of serious illness from the spread of the virus. This marks a new phase in the government's response to the pandemic, moving away from stringent restrictions on everyone's day-to-day lives, towards advising people on how to protect themselves and others, alongside targeted interventions to reduce risk. As COVID-19 becomes a virus that we learn to live with, there is now a need to reduce the disruption to children and young people's education - particularly given that the direct clinical risks to children are deemed to be extremely low.

Our priority is 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 as well as physical and mental health. Our school is aware of the legal responsibilities of providers in taking steps to reopen. Springvale Primary has a duty of care towards staff, students and visitors, including under the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and the Equality Act 2010. Our school will continue to comply with those obligations.

Risk Assessment Version Tracker		
Version 1- September 2021	Approved 14/7/21	Approved by SLT/KT/DC (GB Chair and H/S Rep)
Version 2- review after 2 weeks back	Approved 12/09/21	Approved by SLT/KT/DC (GB Chair and H/S Rep)

Control Measures that are in place across Springvale Primary School

	Active Arrangements	Plans in school	Person (s) Responsible
1	Mixing and Bubbles	<p>We will no longer recommend that it is necessary to keep children in consistent groups ('bubbles'). As well as enabling flexibility in curriculum delivery, this means that assemblies can resume, and there is no longer the need to make alternative arrangements to avoid mixing at lunch. To begin with, from September, most classes will only mix with one other cohort indoors and up to two groups outdoors. Y5/6 leaders may have some minor contact with younger pupils in their sports/wellbeing leader roles.</p> <p>The Springvale Outbreak Management Plan covers the possibility that it may become necessary to reintroduce 'bubbles' for a temporary period, to reduce mixing between groups.</p> <p>Any decision to recommend the reintroduction of 'bubbles' will not be taken lightly and we would take account of the detrimental impact they can have on the delivery of education.</p>	HT GB Staff
2	Tracing close contacts and isolation	<p>From Step 4, close contacts will be identified via NHS Test and Trace and education settings will no longer be expected to undertake contact tracing.</p> <p>From 16 August 2021, children under the age of 18 years old will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case.</p> <p>Any adult (18 years and 4 months) in the setting who hasn't been fully vaccinated may need to isolate so measures will be in place in that eventuality to allow them to work from home. Leaders will, therefore, need to be aware of each staff member's vaccination status.</p>	Test and Trace Supported by Head Families
3	Face coverings	<p>From Step 4, face coverings will no longer be advised for pupils, staff and visitors either in classrooms or in communal areas. However should a member of staff choose to wear a face covering in common areas or corridors, then that is their personal choice to do so. Face shields or Perspex screens can be used to further protect staff during learning time where requested. We will monitor case rates and review this part of the policy throughout the year.</p> <p>The Springvale Outbreak Management Plan covers the possibility that it may become necessary to reintroduce face coverings for a temporary period in communal areas, etc.</p> <p>Contractors and parents attending a meeting indoor are encouraged to wear face masks whilst in and around staff and children. Once visitors or parents reach a fixed place- for example whilst sat down for a meeting- they can remove their mask. Exemptions apply to this rule.</p>	HT GB Staff

4	Stepping measures up and down	The Springvale Outbreak Management Plan outlines how we would operate if there was an outbreak in a school or in the locality. This plan will be reviewed regularly.	HT GB
Control Measures			
Ensure good hygiene for everyone			
1	Hand Hygiene	We will continue to promote frequent and thorough hand cleaning, using soap and water or hand sanitizer, especially when entering the school/classroom environment.	HT Staff
2	Respiratory Hygiene	We will continue to promote the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.	HT Staff
3	Use of personal protective equipment (PPE)	The use of PPE is no longer required beyond what staff would use for their normal work (nappy changing or first aid etc). PPE is still readily available.	HT HK
Cleaning regimes			
4	Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes, using standard products such as detergents	An appropriate cleaning schedule will be in place to ensure regular cleaning of areas and equipment with a focus on frequently touched surfaces. Additional cleaning during the day will remain in place to cover toilets and touch hot spots.	HT GB Engie JK//KHTB
Ventilation			
5	Keep occupied spaces well ventilated	<p>When the school is in operation, it is important to ensure it is well ventilated and that a comfortable teaching environment is maintained.</p> <p>Opening external windows will be considered (weather and temperature dependent) alongside the opening of internal doors to assist with the throughput of air. Contact ENGIE/DfE about CO2 monitors that have been promised for the less well ventilated areas in school.</p>	HT GB JK
Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19			
6	When an individual develops COVID-19 symptoms or has a positive test	<p>Pupils, staff and other adults should follow public health advice on when to self-isolate and what to do. They 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).</p> <p>Anyone in school who develops COVID-19 symptoms, however mild, will be sent home and they should follow public health advice.</p> <p>If a pupil is awaiting collection, they should be left in the pod on their own, if possible and safe to do so. Younger pupils (EYFS and KS1 will be supervised from a safe distance) Appropriate PPE should also be used if close contact is necessary. Any rooms they use should be cleaned after they have left.</p>	HT GB Staff

7	Asymptomatic testing	<p>There is no need for primary age pupils (those in year 6 and below) to test over the summer period.</p> <p>Staff are strongly encouraged to undertake twice weekly home tests whenever they are on site, this will remain the case until further notice. Test kits are available to all staff and they are stored in the staff room.</p>	Staff
8	Confirmatory PCR tests	<p>Staff and pupils with a positive LF test result should self-isolate in line with the stay at home guidance. They will also need to get a free PCR test to check if they have COVID-19.</p> <p>Whilst awaiting the PCR result, the individual should continue to self-isolate.</p> <p>If the PCR test is taken within 2 days of the positive lateral flow test, and is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD test and the pupil/staff member can return to school, as long as the individual doesn't have COVID-19 symptoms.</p>	Staff Families
Other considerations			
9	Clinical Extremely Vulnerable Children	All CEV children and young people should attend their education setting 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 GP or clinician not to attend.	HT GB Staff
10	Admitting Children into school who show symptoms	<p>In most cases, parents and carers will agree that a pupil with symptoms should not attend the school, given the potential risk to others.</p> <p>If a parent or carer insists on a pupil attending your school, you can take the decision to refuse the pupil in line with the latest COVID guidance from the Government if, in your reasonable judgement, it is necessary to protect other pupils and staff from possible infection with COVID-19.</p>	HT GB Staff Families
11	Attendance	<p>School attendance is mandatory for all pupils of compulsory school age and it is priority to ensure that as many children as possible regularly attend school.</p> <p>Where a child 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 (not attending in circumstances related to coronavirus).</p> <p>Where they are unable to attend because they have a confirmed case of COVID-19 they should be recorded as code I (illness).</p>	HT GB Staff Families
12	Travel and quarantine	Parents travelling abroad should bear in mind the impact on their child's education which may result from any requirement to quarantine or isolate upon return. Staff members who book holidays where they cannot work due to quarantine rules will not be paid for the period of quarantine.	HT GB Staff Families

13	Remote Education	<p>If a child is isolating because they have tested positive but are fit and well, then school should continue to deliver remote education. See the school's updated Remote Learning Policy.</p> <p>The remote education provided should be equivalent in length to the core teaching pupils would receive in school and it will include daily core learning of reading, writing and maths activities that are suitable for the child. This will be provided to children who are well enough to learn from home but not allowed into school due to isolation.</p>	HT GB Staff Families
14	Education Recovery	<p>The school has a plan in place in regards to ensure children catch up on their missed education during the pandemic. This will be delivered by all teachers with additional support from the school's addition provision plans- for example addition reading or maths boosting.</p>	HT SLT GB Staff
15	Pupil Well-being and support	<p>We are aware that some children will be experiencing a variety of emotions in response to their own experiences of COVID, such as anxiety, stress, low mood, bereavement and we have robust measures in place to allow them access to the support that they need</p>	HT GB Staff AK SP
16	School Workforce	<p>Clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) people are no longer advised to shield but may wish to take extra precautions to protect themselves, and to follow the practical steps set out in the CEV guidance to minimise their risk of exposure to the virus. The Springvale Outbreak Management Plan outlines how we would manage those staff members if an outbreak occurred.</p>	HT GB
17	School Meals	<p>School will continue to provide a free school meals for those pupils who are eligible for benefits related free school meals and are learning at home during term time. This can be done through a food hamper or a local supermarket voucher- whichever is preferred by the family in question.</p>	HT ECh/CR
18	Education Visits	<p>The School has LA insurance in the eventuality an educational visit is cancelled that is COVID Related. When booking a school visit please enquire about the facilities procedures for refunds, rescheduling and cancellation, etc.</p> <p>Full and thorough risk assessments in relation to all educational visits will be in place and any public health advice, such as hygiene and ventilation requirements, will be included as part of any risk assessments. The Springvale Outbreak Management Plan outlines how we would manage Educational Visits should an outbreak occur.</p>	HT GB ECh
19	Additional relaxations on 2020/21 measures	<p>Water bottles can now stay in school. They are rinsed daily and refilled. We advise that they go home each Friday for a wash at home and returned on a Monday. The previous water bottle policy has been removed and new bottles will not be routinely purchased for children without a bottle. Drink cups and fresh water are back on the dining tables and available for all children, for this reason children do not require a drink with their packed lunch.</p>	HT GB Staff Families

	<p>Baking projects are now accepted in school as part of homework projects, extra-curricular work and birthday treats (in-line with our Healthy Eating Statement) but we would urge good hygiene and using clear, plastic tubs for bringing in to school.</p> <p>Young leaders have returned to school so that Y5/6 pupils can develop their independence and leadership skills. Young leaders will wash hands before supporting any other class and they will only mix with 1 other class indoor or up to 3 outdoor.</p> <p>Play times and assemblies will now operate with some mixing (outdoor up to 3 classes and indoor up to 1 other class).</p>	
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