



Hardwick Primary School

COVID-19: risk assessment

(updated 25th February 2022)

The measures we list are based on current government and Public Health Suffolk guidance:

- [COVID-19 Response: Living with COVID-19 \(GOV.UK\)](#) (published 25 February 2022)
- [Schools COVID-19 operational guidance](#) (updated 24 February 2022)
- [COVID-19: people with COVID-19 and their contacts](#) (published 24 February 2022)
- [Updated guidance for managing COVID-19 in childcare & education settings in Suffolk in the era of "Living with COVID-19"](#) (updated 25 February 2022)
- [Use of PPE in education, childcare and children's social care settings](#) (updated 20th July 2021)

RAG rated control measures

- Red: this measure cannot be put in place in our school
- Amber: this measure isn't in place yet, but can be put in place
- Green: this measure is already in place

RISKS:

- **That children or adults within the school community will be exposed to, catch or spread coronavirus**
- **That children's well-being and cognitive and academic development will be adversely affected by not attending school or by school being an unsafe environment physically or emotionally**

DfE advised steps	Mitigation actions necessary	How effectively can your school meet this recommendation?			Comments
		Barely	Partially	Fully	
Section 1: Control measures to minimise coronavirus (COVID-19) risks - Numbers 1 to 4 must be in place in all schools, all the time.					
1) Ensure good hygiene for everyone <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hand hygiene ○ Respiratory hygiene ○ Use of personal protective equipment (PPE) 	<p>Hand hygiene Frequent and thorough hand cleaning should now be regular practice. You should continue to ensure that pupils clean their hands regularly. This can be done with soap and water or hand sanitiser.</p> <p>Respiratory hygiene The ‘catch it, bin it, kill it’ approach continues to be very important and conveyed to all pupils, staff and visitors.</p> <p>Use of personal protective equipment (PPE) Most staff in schools will not require PPE beyond what they would normally need for their work. The guidance on the use of PPE in education, childcare and children’s social care settings provides more information on the use of PPE for COVID-19.</p>				
2) Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes, using standard products such as detergents	<p>We will maintain an appropriate cleaning schedule. This includes regular cleaning of areas and equipment (for example, twice per day), with a particular focus on frequently touched surfaces.</p> <p>PHE has published guidance on the cleaning of non-healthcare settings.</p>				
3) Keep occupied spaces well ventilated	<p>It is important to ensure it is well ventilated and that a comfortable teaching environment is maintained.</p> <p>Steps will be taken to improve fresh air flow in any areas identified as poorly ventilated spaces e.g. school hall, giving particular consideration when holding events where visitors such as parents are on site, for example, school plays.</p>				Parents advised to send children in wearing warm clothes for colder months.

	<p>Opening external windows can improve natural ventilation, and in addition, opening internal doors can also assist with creating a throughput of air. If necessary, external opening doors may also be used (if they are not fire doors and where safe to do so).</p> <p>You should balance the need for increased ventilation while maintaining a comfortable temperature.</p> <p>The Health and Safety Executive guidance on air conditioning and ventilation during the COVID-19 pandemic and CIBSE COVID-19 advice provides more information.</p> <p>CO2 monitors are in all classrooms, so staff can quickly identify where ventilation needs to be improved.</p>				
<p>4) Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19</p>	<p><i>When an individual develops COVID-19 symptoms or has a positive test</i> Pupils, staff and other adults should follow guidance on COVID-19: people with COVID-19 and their contacts if they have COVID-19 symptoms. 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>Although legal requirement to isolate is ending, adults and children who test positive will continue to be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 full days and then continue to follow the guidance until they have received 2 negative test results on consecutive days.</p> <p>If anyone in school develops COVID-19 symptoms, however mild, they should be sent home and they should follow public health advice.</p> <p>For everyone with symptoms, they should avoid using public transport and, wherever possible, be collected by a member of their family or household.</p>				<p>If a parent or carer insists on a pupil attending your school, the school can take the decision to refuse the pupil if, in our reasonable judgement, it is necessary to protect other pupils and staff from possible infection with COVID-19. Our decision would need to be carefully considered in light of all the circumstances and current public health advice.</p>

	<p>If a pupil is awaiting collection, they will wait outside (with an adult and weather permitting) or in the disabled toilet, on their own if possible and safe to do so. The skylight window should be opened for fresh air ventilation if possible. Appropriate PPE should also be used if close contact is necessary. Further information on this can be found in the use of PPE in education, childcare and children's social care settings guidance. Any rooms they use should be cleaned after they have left.</p> <p>The household (including any siblings) should follow the PHE stay at home guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection.</p> <p><i>Asymptomatic testing</i> From 21 February, staff and pupils in mainstream schools will not be expected to continue taking part in regular asymptomatic testing and should follow asymptomatic testing advice for the general population.</p>				<p>In the event of an outbreak, a school may also be advised by their local health team or director of public health to undertake testing for staff for a period of time.</p>
<p>Siblings or close contacts of a positive case</p>	<p>Contacts are no longer required to self-isolate or advised to take daily tests, and routine contact tracing has ended - staff, children and young people who are contacts should attend their education settings as usual. This includes staff who have been in close contact within their household, unless they are able to work from home. The legal requirement has been removed for close contacts who are not fully vaccinated to self-isolate.</p> <p>People who live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 are at the highest risk of becoming infected because they are most likely to have prolonged close contact. People who stayed overnight in the household of someone with COVID-19 while they were infectious are also at high risk.</p> <p>If you live with, or have stayed overnight in the household of, someone who has COVID-19, you are advised to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • minimise contact with the person who has COVID-19 • work from home if you are able to do so 				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • avoid contact with anyone you know who is at higher risk of becoming severely unwell if they are infected with COVID-19, especially those with a severely weakened immune system • limit close contact with other people outside your household, especially in crowded, enclosed or poorly ventilated spaces • wear a well-fitting face covering made with multiple layers or a surgical face mask in crowded, enclosed or poorly ventilated spaces and where you are in close contact with other people • pay close attention to the main symptoms of COVID-19. If you develop any of these symptoms, order a PCR test. You are advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people while you are waiting for your test result <p>Follow this advice for 10 days after the day the person you live or stayed with symptoms started (or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms).</p> <p>If you are a contact of someone with COVID-19 but do not live with them or did not stay in their household overnight, you are at lower risk of becoming infected. Carefully follow the guidance on Coronavirus: how to stay safe and help prevent the spread.</p>				
<p>People previously considered clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV)</p>	<p>Pupils previously considered clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) should attend school and should follow the same COVID-19 guidance as the rest of the population.</p> <p>Further information is available in the Guidance for people previously considered clinically extremely vulnerable from COVID-19.</p>				
<p>Vaccination</p>	<p>We recommend all school staff and eligible pupils take up the offer of a vaccine. You can find out more about the in-school vaccination programme in COVID-19 vaccination programme for children and young people guidance for schools.</p>				
<p>Section 2: School operations</p>					

Bubbles or consistent groups	This is not an option going forward. However, the outbreak management plan covers the possibility of temporarily reintroducing bubbles, e.g. during a local outbreak				
Face coverings in schools	Face coverings are no longer advised for pupils, staff and visitors in classrooms, communal areas or on the school site.				The wearing of face coverings in school, may be reinstated if advised by the local authority, a director of public health or UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) health protection team.
Attendance	<p>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.</p> <p>Where a child is self-isolating (awaiting a test result) or in quarantine because of COVID19, they should be recorded as code X (not attending in circumstances related to coronavirus). Where they are unable to attend because they have a confirmed case of COVID-19 they should be recorded as code I (illness).</p> <p>For pupils abroad who are facing challenges to return, code X is unlikely to apply. In some specific cases, code Y (unable to attend due to exceptional circumstances) will apply. Further guidance about the use of codes is provided in the school attendance guidance.</p>				
Vulnerable children	<p>Where pupils who are self-isolating are within our definition of vulnerable, it is very important that we keep in contact with them, particularly if they have a social worker. Some children may be vulnerable who are not officially in statutory systems and the school will seek to support any children who we believe may have challenging circumstances at home.</p> <p>When a vulnerable pupil is self-isolating, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • notify their social worker (if they have one) and, for looked-after children, the local authority virtual school head 				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> agree with the social worker the best way to maintain contact and offer support <p>You will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> check if a vulnerable pupil is able to access remote education support support them to access it (as far as possible) regularly check if they are accessing remote education keep in contact with them to check their wellbeing and refer onto other services if additional support is needed. 				
Control of contractors and visitors to school site	Ensure that contractors and visitors are aware of the school's control measures and ways of working, by reading the visitors RA.				
Travel and quarantine	All children and staff travelling to England must adhere to government travel advice in travel to England from another country during coronavirus (COVID-19). 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. Where pupils travel from abroad to attend a boarding school, you will need to explain the rules to pupils and their parents before they travel to the UK.				
School start and finish times	Staggered start/end times to remain to ease congestion outside of school.				Staggered drop off times reviewed to allow families with children in more than one year group to drop off at the same time.
Volunteers may be used to support the work of the school, as would usually be the case.	Any volunteers to be made fully aware of protocols and procedures around COVID-19. Monitored by SLT.				
Educational visits	Educational day visits, domestic residential and international visits can go ahead. Educational visits should be subject to risk assessments as normal and reflect any public health advice or in-country advice of the international destination.				

Wraparound provision and extra-curricular provision	<p>B&A Club can run without social distancing rules. Continue in B&A Room and make use of playground and field for fresh air. B&A Club staff to follow good hygiene controls listed above.</p> <p>Extra-curricular provision i.e. lunchtime and after school clubs can continue as normal.</p>				The outbreak management plan covers the possibility of temporarily reintroducing bubbles, e.g. during a local outbreak
Section 3: Curriculum, behaviour and pastoral support					
Curriculum expectations	Teaching of our full curriculum.				
Remote education	<p>Where appropriate, we will support those who are self-isolating because they have tested positive to work or learn from home if they are well enough to do so.</p> <p>Schools subject to the remote education temporary continuity direction are required to provide remote education to pupils covered by the direction where their attendance would be contrary to government guidance or legislation around COVID-19.</p> <p>We will aim to maintain our capacity to deliver high-quality remote education across this academic year, including for pupils who are abroad, and facing challenges to return due to COVID-19 travel restrictions, for the period they are abroad.</p> <p>The remote education provided should be equivalent in length to the core teaching pupils would receive in school.</p> <p>We will work collaboratively with families and put in place reasonable adjustments so that pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) can successfully access remote education.</p>				Refer to the schools COVID-19 Remote education policy
Physical activity in schools	PE lessons to be outside unless severe weather permits this or deemed to be indoor PE. Indoor PE will take place in the hall, which will be well ventilated.				

	<p>To maximise effective use of PE lesson time, children are now coming into school in their PE kit on their designated PE days.</p> <p>Year 5 are attending weekly swimming lessons at the local pool .</p> <p>Both indoor and outdoor sporting competitions can take place.</p>				
School performances	<p>Indoor and outdoor performances with an audience can go ahead.</p> <p>Numbers will be restricted in the school hall in line with fire safety.</p>				The outbreak management plan covers the possibility of temporarily suspending an audience from during a local outbreak
Education recovery	Use of PiXL Primary interventions and use of the NTP to offer additional tutoring for those who require catch up.				
Pupil wellbeing and support	<p>Give opportunities for PSHE based activities where necessary. PSHE programme to be include lessons on friendship and social engagement, any issues responding to coronavirus and improving of physical and mental well-being.</p> <p>Any children with specific needs or issues relating to coronavirus or difficulty in re-engaging back with school to be addressed through nurture sessions with Pastoral Support Lead.</p>				
Behaviour expectations	Behaviour expectations in line with school Behaviour Policy.				
Section 4: Contingency planning for outbreaks					
Contingency plans for outbreaks	Refer to the schools COVID-19: outbreak management plan				