



Deanshanger Primary School School Effectiveness COVID-19 Risk Assessment Plan October 2021 (Based on September 2021 updated guidance)

This risk assessment is based on the latest documentation received (Schools COVID-19 operational guidance, 27 September 2021 - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/schools-covid-19-operational-guidance>).

Our risk assessment is updated regularly and made available for all staff, children, governors, parents, carers and external visitors on the school website - www.deanshangerprimary.co.uk. It is a living document based on the latest government guidance regarding arrangement for teaching and learning for children in all year groups that are in good health. It has been built upon guidance from the DfE and has been shared with parents/carers, staff, governors and the Local Authority.

In summary, all pupils across the school continue to be able to attend school and there is a strong focus on learning to live with the virus with targeted interventions to reduce risk, with the intention of reducing disruption to children's education.

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. We are all very much focused on ensuring that the children are provided with appropriate opportunities to catch up on missed learning with gaps in learning clearly identified. This can be seen in school planning, pupil progress meetings, intervention plans, resource expenditure, staffing allocation, staff professional development and considering external recovery programmes.

We are aware of our duty under the new Coronavirus Act and will balance this at all times with our duty of care to all members of our school community. We will take all reasonable steps to protect the safety of all pupils and staff and recognise that as staff, we have a duty under common law to take care of our pupils in the same way that a parent/carer would.

This risk assessment is based on the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 (HASAW), the Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations 1992 (PPER) and The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations -1999 (MHSWR). It will be continually reviewed and external expert advice will be commissioned as and when necessary. This includes regulation 3 (MHSWR) provides that every employer shall make a suitable and sufficient assessment of the risks to health and safety to which its employees and other persons affected by its activities are exposed and implement preventative and protective measures on the basis of certain fundamental health and safety principles.

| Risk: Transmission through contact (for the KW&V groups in school) | Who | Measures taken: | Status/ RAG Rating |
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| To create strategies for social distancing in school between year group bubbles in inside spaces | All staff | <p>We no longer operate in year group bubbles with staggered starts and finish times. The children are entering and leaving at 'pre-COVID' times with mixed year groups. Groups are playing outside together.</p> <p>Inside school, we continue to avoid large gatherings of classes in the same space.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assemblies continue to be largely on Zoom with 2 year groups accessing the assembly from the school hall. Lunches continue to be organised with 2 year groups in the lunch hall as 'normal'. <p>Contingency plans - If we have several cases of COVID in the school, we would consider reintroducing 'bubbles' for a temporary period, to reduce mixing between groups.</p> | |

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| <p>To reduce risk of exposure to COVID-19 by considering the latest control measures:</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>SLT Admin All staff</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good hand hygiene is consistently encouraged as part of the regular school day - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Site supervisor assigned to refill soap dispensers at the beginning of each day in all areas (for children and staff). ◦ Hand sanitising stations to be regularly checked and refilled. ◦ Children are encouraged to wash their hands when entering school; after coughing or sneezing; after using the toilet and before and after handling food. This should be supported by the class teacher and LSAs in FS and Y1. • Children are aware of the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach. • School cleaners focus on door plates, handles and surfaces regularly and have a weekly routine for deep sanitising. • Windows and doors are open around the school for natural ventilation in conjunction with the school heating being on to create, wherever possible, a comfortable teaching environment. • Staff continue to be provided with lateral flow tests and should test twice a week – Sundays and Wednesdays. Information from these should be logged on the Gov.UK site and positive cases immediately shared with SLT. • In line with guidance, all positive cases from the lateral flow test should now be followed up with a PCR test at an assigned testing site. • PPE supplies are stored in every year group (and in mid-day supervisor - MMS backpacks) and can be accessed by all staff members as and where required (and in exceptional circumstances). These include masks, visors, aprons and gloves. • Hand sanitiser (75% alcohol) is available in each teaching area in fixed units (the recommendation is 60%+). Staff and children are able to bring in their | |
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| | | <p>own if they would prefer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PPE stocks to be monitored by admin to ensure that there is always a supply ready for use. • Used PPE to be placed into separate pedal bins for disposal and double bagged. • Face coverings are no longer advised for pupils, staff and visitors either in classrooms or in communal areas. <p>Contingency plans – If we have several cases of COVID in the school, we would look carefully at all of the control measures and consider reintroducing face coverings* (for staff and visitors) in communal areas.</p> <p>*Face visors or shields can be worn by those exempt from wearing a face covering but they are not an equivalent alternative in terms of source control of virus transmission.</p> | |
| To provide a contained room or area for use should a pupil/pupils show symptoms of Covid-19 | Class team | <p>If a child becomes unwell during the school day, a message is immediately passed on to the admin team (as above) or via a runner, to phone home. Supervision, whilst waiting, is by the HT. Parents/carers must ensure that they are contactable throughout the school day.</p> <p>*As a school we reserve the right to ask parents and carers to come and collect their child if they are unwell whether they display symptoms of COVID-19 or not. We believe that this is very important in safeguarding all members of our school community on site.</p> | |
| Risk: Staff and Pupil Attendance | | | |
| Identify staffing levels to the smooth running of the school. | SLT and shared | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audit of staff carried out taking into account those that have tested positive themselves or are unwell for other reasons. | |

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| | with CoG | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated request by admin to ensure that all details, including medical info, is updated. An assessment of risks has been considered for new and expectant mothers. All staff are encouraged to share their concerns with specific guidance and arrangements put in place as required for individual staff members. | |
| To manage anxiety of staff members through the communication of expectations, process and procedures for day to day operation | HT and SLT | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular reminders about open communication to address specific concerns. All staff should go to a member of the SLT with all and any concerns, in relation to this risk assessment, as a first port of call. Unresolved concerns should be addressed in the regular manner i.e., Head teacher (HT) and then to the Chair of Governors (when unresolved with the HT). Access to well-being and mental health support communicated and shared with staff e.g., provide access details for the school nurse and other appropriate organisations as it is deemed appropriate. | |
| Process for collecting a child due to illness or an existing appointment during the school day is established and shared | SLT | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plans for collection will be built and shared with the parents/carers on a case by case basis. Where the parent/carer or a member of staff has a concern regarding a child's health these will be shared in order to establish the next steps. | |
| Risk: Maintaining Cleanliness | | | |
| Deep clean of the classroom when a positive case has been identified. | School cleaning team | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A deep clean is commissioned where a positive case of coronavirus has been reported in a year group. <p>Contingency plans – If we have several cases of COVID in the school, we would look carefully at commissioning an external cleaning company to come and deep clean the whole school and reflect upon our current cleaning plans.</p> | |
| Maintain a high standard of cleanliness | All staff | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will follow government guidelines as follows: | |

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| and hygiene to mitigate risk of transmission | | https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A copy of this risk assessment is shared with our cleaning team. • A checklist of cleaning has been created and is used to ensure that all frequently used objects and items are cleaned to include: door handles, table tops, phones, photocopiers, toys, teaching equipment/resources, bannisters, light switches, books, toilets, sinks. Cleaners are using disposable cloths. <p>It is responsibility of the staff member to request wipes (from admin) if the wipes need replenishing.</p> | |
| Risk: Safeguarding | | | |
| Recommission all systems | Site Supervisor | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As the school has been open throughout the lockdown period, our services have not been turned off. However, additional checks have been carried out for: • gas, • heating, • water supply, (additional work was commissioned end January 2021 and is now monthly) • mechanical and electrical systems. Additional electrical work was commissioned January 2021. | |
| Check our fire safety systems | Site supervisor HT | <p>Checks carried out before opening and as 'normal' on a weekly basis to ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all fire doors are operational; • Staff are aware of the fire drill procedures and share these with their class group; • fire alarm system and emergency lights are operational. | |
| To identify actions required to ensure | DSL | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible pupils have been identified and additional support has been put in | |

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| <p>sufficiency in meeting increased demand for support where pupils are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At risk of exclusion • In need of Early Help • Have additional needs such as behaviour, sensory impairment etc. • Exhibiting mental health and well-being issues • In need of bereavement counselling • Meeting the social care thresholds | <p>DDSLs HT SENCo Learning Mentor</p> | <p>place by the SENCo, Learning Mentor, class teams and SLT.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LA representatives have been contacted to discuss key issues as and where appropriate to mitigate risk/provide support e.g., updated safeguarding and Early Help guidance. • The Learning Mentor and SENCo work specifically on the daily and individual needs of identified children where possible | |
| <p>School policies and expectations regarding safeguarding children and adults are in line with the latest guidance received.</p> | | | |