

Southview School.

Updated Covid risk assessment for the return to school on the 8th March 2021.

This is an updated risk assessment and should be read in conjunction with our 'return to school risk assessment' (September 2020). Unless otherwise stated all protocols remain in place.

Current context:

A significant number of children and students will be returning to school on the 8th March. The underlying principle is the recognition that the best place for children, with the exception of those classified as clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV), is at school, where it is safe to do so. The school will do all it can to support children and families back to school, with sensitivity and respect towards the very real anxiety families have at this time.

Teachers and support staff have now received their first dose of the vaccination and the take up for this has been extremely high (98%). What remains unclear is whether or not vaccinated people can pass on the virus and potentially this risk is heightened as there will be an increase in the number of asymptomatic staff should this be the case. To mitigate this, the school will take the following action:

- A weekly rapid flow test for all staff
- A facility for parents to test their children at home should they choose to do so
- All social distance measures and mask wearing (detailed in main school risk assessment) to remain in place.
- Everyone entering the building will have their hands sanitised and wheelchair touch points sanitised and temperature taken.
- The enhanced cleaning regimes will remain in place.
- Anyone displaying symptoms will be immediately isolated (staff will be offered a further rapid flow test) and protocols for closing bubbles, if necessary, will remain in place.
- The outside area will continue to be segregated, and children/students will continue to have lunch in their class rooms.
- The importance of room ventilation seems to be becoming more important and this will be recognised in our practice.

The staggered start and finish times:

The start of the day:

The school will open for all children and students at 9.10am. Those travelling by bus will enter the school through the hall doors, and those brought in by parents/carers will enter the school through the main reception door.

The end of the day:

We will begin the process of staggering the leaving times from 2.30pm to enable social distancing measure to be in place. For those parents who require their children to be in school until 3.15pm this will be accommodated. Parents can pick

their children up between 3pm and 3.15pm from the main reception entrance and children/students who travel by bus will depart from the hall.

For those children not in school we pledge to provide a comprehensive package of home support, but recognise some of the more specialist therapeutic input may be impossible to replicate at home.

For each child not attending school (other than those classed as CEV) the individual risk assessment will be updated detailing;

- The rationale for an individual child/student not being in school
- The home support package in place at the time (this may be subject to review/enhancement as restriction ease)
- The plan for a return to full time education for these children.

Inclusion programmes:

We will continue to suspend the inclusion programs with other schools for the time being but this will be reviewed over Easter.

Provision for after school/holiday clubs:

It would be impossible for bubbles not to mix at after school or holiday clubs so we will continue to suspend these with a review over Easter.

Visitors in school:

The schools' current policy of allowing 'essential' visitors will remain in place, to be reviewed over Easter.

External visits/visitors

These will continue to be suspended, pending a review over Easter.