*Down Ampney, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7 5QR*

*Down Ampney C of E Primary School*

Everyone Achieving, Everyone Believing, Everyone Caring.

*Headteacher: Mrs R Gray*

*Tel: 01793 750294*

*Email: admin@downampney.gloucs.sch.uk or head@downampney.gloucs.sch.uk*

*Website:* [*http://www.downampneyprimaryschool.co.uk*](http://www.downampneyprimaryschool.co.uk)

COVID-19 Risk Assessment for Down Ampney C of E Primary School revised following the identification of the Omicron variant.

This risk assessment is part of the planning required to identify the procedures and actions necessary and specific to Down Ampney Primary School that confirm the arrangements for children attending school based on the latest advice on COVID-19 including the new Omicron variant of the virus. The document is also used to inform both our Covid-19 Contingency Plan as well as the school’s Infection Control Policy. The assessment follows the operational guidance (COVID-19) issued by the Department for Education issued in January 2022[[1]](#footnote-1). The assessment also provides detail where necessary and relevant to those issues identified in the GCC Risk assessment – Schools and Educational Settings/Aug 2021 v12, the guidance received from GCC Director of Education regarding rapidly rising infection rates dated 21 October 2021 and the SW Regional Consensus Schools’ statement dated 7 January 2022.

The assessment uses a simple but effective assessment methodology (risk calculator) which is used to evaluate the risk, complete a risk ranking which will determine the residual risk. This is done by assessing the likelihood of a risk causing harm and if it does occur what the severity of the harm caused would be.

The risk calculator used in this assessment is shown below:

The risk ratings consider the circumstances before government guidance to control the transmission of COVID-19. The after controls score takes into account the measures introduced to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 which reduces the overall risk.

This risk assessment will be updated in line with any changes in guidance from the UK Government and GCC and will also be reviewed regularly to ensure it remains relevant and accurate. Regional data may also be used to adapt and change the risk assessment as required.

Completed on Tuesday 11th January 2022 (Version 10.2)

Normal emergency procedures (such as children leaving the school building due to a fire alarm), continue to apply. Staff will be briefed on how to do this as safely as possible.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Hazard | Who may be harmed? | Risk rating before controls | Control measures/notes | Risk rating after controls | Control measures by |
| 1. Person showing symptoms or positive test result | StaffPupilsYoung PeopleFamiliesContractorsVisitorsMembers of the public | Consequence (C) 2Likelihood (L) 2Total (T) 4 | 1. Refer to [GCC COVID Response Checklist](https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/media/2109329/covid-19-response-checklist-v1-270821.docx) and [GCC advice on testing](https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/media/2107354/primary-gcc_3277-covid-19-testing-options-and-symptoms-primary-testing.png), self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19 for primary schools.
2. Regular communications that persons are not to 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 (e.g. they are required to isolate).
3. If anyone in the school develops COVID-19 symptoms they will be sent home.
4. An unwell child awaiting collection will be isolated in a suitable room with or without adult supervision (depending on age and needs of the child).
5. Staff caring for a child awaiting collection to keep a distance of 2 metres.
6. PPE to be worn by staff caring for the child, including:
	1. a face mask worn if a distance of 2 metres cannot be maintained.
	2. if contact is necessary, then gloves, an apron and a face mask should be worn
	3. eye protection where there is a risk of fluids entering the eye, for example, from coughing, spitting or vomiting.
7. Staff to wash their hands after caring for a child with symptoms.
8. All areas where a person with symptoms has been to be cleaned after they have left.
9. If there are more than two positive tests, the school’s outbreak management plan will be initiated.
10. School has sufficient supplies of PPE, face coverings, cleaning materials and hand washing/sanitising liquids.
11. Update staff, pupils, stakeholders and visitors on changes in practice – Step 4 measures.
12. If a parent/carer insists on a pupil attending school with symptoms, the Headteacher may refuse the pupil if, in her reasonable judgement, it is necessary to protect other pupils and staff from possible infection with COVID-19.
13. Vaccination is a control measure against COVID so staff can be asked to confirm that they are vaccinated. This information will assist in the risk assessment for outbreak management plans.
14. Communicate updates with supply staff and other temporary or peripatetic staff and volunteers to follow the school’s arrangements for managing and minimising risk.
15. Staff to undertake twice weekly home tests whenever they are on site until guidance from DfE changes.
16. Follow guidance from DfE and GCC:
	1. Everyone in the household to lateral flow test twice weekly
	2. If a child is a close contact with someone who is positive then they are asked to do LFT each day for 7 days.
	3. If anyone in a household tests positive then everyone should complete a LFT. If the child is negative then they should return to school and continue with LFT daily for a week.
	4. If anyone in the household tests positive then their isolation can end on day 7 if they have had a negative LFT on day 6 and 7, children can return to school on day 7 if they also do not have a temperature. The school will request proof of the negative LFT is sent to school on day 6 and 7.
	5. After having covid, twice weekly LFT testing should re-start immediately that isolation finishes..
	6. Primary age children can now have the vaccine if they or anyone they live with are immunosuppressed.
17. All individuals identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19 will be contacted directly by NHS Test and Trace. They will be strongly advised to take a LFT every day for 7 days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result. Daily testing of close contacts applies to all contacts who are:
	1. fully vaccinated adults – people who have had 2 doses of an approved vaccine
	2. all children and young people aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, regardless of their vaccination status
	3. people who are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons
	4. people taking part, or have taken part, in an approved clinical trial for a COVID-19 vaccine
 | C 2L 1T 2 | All staff and pupils |
| 2. Poor Personal Hygiene | StaffPupilsYoung PeopleFamiliesContractorsVisitorsMembers of the public | C 3L 2T 6 | 1. COVID-19 posters/ signage displayed.
2. Frequent and thorough hand cleaning is regular practice.
3. Pupils and staff to clean their hands when they arrive at school, when they return from breaks, when they change rooms and before and after eating.
4. Sufficient handwashing facilities are available.
5. Where there is no sink, hand sanitiser provided in classrooms.
6. Skin friendly skin cleaning wipes used as an alternative to hand washing or sanitiser.
7. Staff help is available for pupils who have trouble cleaning their hands independently (e.g. small children and pupils with complex needs).
8. Use resources such as “e-bug” to teach effective hand hygiene etc.
9. Adults and pupils are encouraged not to touch their mouth, eyes and nose.
10. Adults and pupils encouraged to use a tissue to cough or sneeze and use bins for tissue waste (‘catch it, bin it, kill it’).
11. Tissues to be provided.
12. Bins for tissues provided and are emptied throughout the day.
 | C 2L 1T 2 | All staff and pupils |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 3. Spreading coronavirus from contact with surfaces, equipment and workstations  | StaffPupilsYoung PeopleFamiliesContractorsVisitorsMembers of the public | C 2L 2T 4 | 1. Reduced clutter and removing difficult to clean items to make cleaning easier.
2. Cleaning using standard cleaning products such as detergents and bleach, paying attention to all surfaces but especially ones that are touched frequently, such as door handles, light switches, work surfaces, remote controls and electronic devices.
3. Surfaces that are frequently touched and by many people in common areas to be cleaned twice a day.
4. Avoid sharing work equipment by allocating it on a personal basis or put cleaning regimes in place to clean between each user.
5. Identify where you can reduce people touching surfaces, for example by leaving doors open (except fire doors), or providing contactless payment.
6. Keep surfaces clear to make it easier to clean and reduce the likelihood of contaminating objects.
7. Provide more bins and empty them more often.
8. Toilets and communal areas to be cleaned regularly.
9. Sanitising spray and paper towels to be provided in classrooms for use by members of staff.
10. Thorough cleaning of rooms at the end of the day.
 | C 2L 1T 2 | Pupils, staff and cleaning staff |
| 4. Poorly ventilated spaces leading to risks of coronavirus spreading  | StaffPupilsYoung PeopleFamiliesContractorsVisitorsMembers of the public | C 2L 2T 4 | 1. Ventilation will be as optimal as possible
2. Carbon dioxide monitors used to quickly identify where ventilation needs to be improved. (Note: the school is awaiting delivery of the monitors)
3. Heating will be used as necessary to ensure comfort levels are maintained when the building is occupied.
4. Keep windows open wide enough to provide some natural background ventilation and open internal doors to increase air flow.
5. Open windows fully when rooms are unoccupied for longer periods to purge the air (e.g. lunch times and before and after school).
6. Action taken to prevent occupants being exposed to draughts.
7. Fans may be used for good air circulation.
8. Occupants encouraged to wear additional, suitable indoor clothing. (If they have to wear coats, scarves and other outdoor clothing the room would be considered too cold and the above steps must be considered).
9. Ensure staff meetings and insets are in rooms with suitable and sufficient ventilation.
 | C 2L 1T 2 | All staff |
| 5. Airborne spread of COVID | StaffPupilsYoung PeopleFamiliesContractorsVisitorsMembers of the public | C 2L 2T 4 | 1. Face coverings should be worn by staff and adults (including visitors) when moving around in corridors and communal areas. Health advice continues to be that children in primary schools should not be asked to wear face coverings
2. Lunches will be arranged to avoid all the school being within the school hall over the lunch break.
 | C 2L 1T 2 | All staff, visitors |
| 6. Increased risk of infection and complications for workers who are clinically extremely vulnerable and workers in higher- risk groups  | StaffPupilsYoung PeopleFamiliesContractorsVisitorsMembers of the public | C 3L 3T 9 | 1. Staff and pupils who are extremely vulnerable will receive an individual risk assessment which will detail if they should be in school, and what specific measures should be in place.
2. Carry out a risk assessment of pregnant workers to identify the risk and measures to be taken.
3. Some pregnant workers will be at greater risk of severe illness from coronavirus and they should stay at home as much as possible and work from home if they can.
4. Where adjustments to the job or working from home is not possible pregnant workers will be suspended from work on paid leave.
 | C 2L 1T 2 | Headteacher, staff and families |
| 7. Strain on the mental health of staff, children and families | Staff, pupils and families | C 2L 2T 4 | 1. Governors to continue to regularly meet with the Headteacher remotely to offer support if needed.
2. Governor to be identified to listen to concerns of staff and headteacher.
3. Staff well-being survey completed.
4. Age appropriate PSHE lessons to be planned and delivered to all children.
5. Remote education plan is in place and is appropriately planned considering teacher workload.
 | C 2L 1T 2 | Staff and families |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Average Risks identified |  | Total Hazard35Average 5 |  | Total14Average2 |  |

More information is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/guidance-for-schools-coronavirus-covid-19>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person>

[South West Regional Consensus Schools Statement and updated guidance](https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/media/2112210/schools-statement-070122.pdf)

[Gloucestershire County Council – COVID-19 information and Guidance](https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/schoolsnet/noticeboard/covid-19-information-and-guidance/)

1. [DfE Schools COVID-19 Operational Guidance](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1040827/Schools_COVID-19_operational_guidance.pdf) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)