

Full Opening of Schools March 2021

Risk Assessment Summary for schools in Coast Academies

Please note:

- Our risk assessments have followed the Department for Education's full guidance.
- The details of each school's operational plan will be different since an individual risk assessment has been completed in each school. This is based on the space, resources, staff and other factors that are specific to that school.
- The key plan for minimising the risk to staff and children is the use of class or year group bubbles rather than social distancing. This is due to the DFE's recognition of the difficulty of social distancing with young children. Social distancing does however apply to some aspects of full opening such as visitors, drop off and pick up times and staff.

The school Site

School staff and leaders have walked in and around the school planning carefully to ensure that the school site will be as safe as possible. They have been supported in this task by professionals from the trust's central team.

Measures in place include:

- Changes to drop off and pick up points
- Signs around the school to remind people about social distancing
- Changes to classroom layouts
- Less use of shared resources
- Doors and windows which can be kept open without increasing fire risk (when weather allows this)
- Use of face coverings for adults (not when teaching)

Cleaning and Washrooms

Professionals from our cleaning company and the trust's facilities team have been consulted and are putting in place a number of measures:

- Increased cleaning schedule which includes additional cleaning of toilets during the day
- Unnecessary items from classrooms removed
- Continuous cleaning in place with school staff involved to clean high use areas throughout the day eg door handles
- Handwashing practice with children
- One in one out system with toilets where possible

Staffing Plans

Staff organisation has been carefully planned with our central human resources team. Measures include:

- Supporting vulnerable staff to allow them to return to work
- Ensuring all staff are trained in any new procedures and fully understand the details of school's risk assessment
- Where staff do need to move between bubbles, they are fully aware of additional procedures to limit the spread of the virus

Health and Safety/Medical

Trust leaders have drawn on a huge range of guidance to ensure that we have the correct procedures in place.

Measures include:

- Everyone being clear what to do should someone at school begin to show symptoms
- Ensuring we clearly understand which individuals should stay at home due to existing medical conditions
- Having a clear procedure in place should there be a confirmed case
- Providing clear guidance to Coronavirus testing should it be needed
- Training staff on the correct use of PPE should it be needed for a first aid or intimate care situation with younger children
- The majority of staff taking part in the twice weekly voluntary LFD testing
- Encouraging families to take regular voluntary LFD tests where possible

Day to day arrangements

Many plans have been discussed and drawn up between school leaders and the trust's central team together with the local authority, local schools and the Department for Education.

Measures include:

- Staggered lunch and break times including carefully planned use of the school halls at lunchtime
- Staggered drop off and pick up times
- The use of class bubbles or year group bubbles to reduce the spread of the virus by limiting the number of individuals that a child comes into contact with. These may sometimes be "bubbles within bubbles". For example, year group bubbles used at lunchtimes but with further separation for the greater part of the day in class bubbles
- Agreeing that parents and visitors should not enter the building except by appointment. Parents should normally only enter the lobby areas of each school
- Parents asked to wear face coverings at drop off and pick up

Pupils and curriculum

Discussions with our school leaders and the leaders of other schools both locally and nationally has confirmed the need for us to focus on the emotional wellbeing of our returning pupils. We have therefore agreed:

- The focus of the curriculum in the short term will be on the wellbeing and emotional support of children at this difficult time
- We are also concerned that children do not fall behind with their learning and will ensure that we quickly identify gaps in pupil's learning so that these can be addressed
- We will make full use of our outside resources to support pupil's enjoyment of school as well as reducing the spread of the virus