

COVID-19 Risk assessment – March 2022 Bede North

Consulting and sharing Coronavirus (COVID-19) risk assessment

Schools should consult with the health and safety representative selected by a recognised trade union or, if there isn't one, a representative chosen by staff. Schools and staff should always come together to resolve issues.

Schools should share the results of their risk assessment with their workforce. If possible, they should consider publishing it on their website to provide transparency of approach to parents, carers and pupils (The HSE would expect all employers with over 50 staff to do so).

For further information regarding this assessment, please refer to your assigned Judicium Education Health & Safety consultant.

Reference materials / contacts: PHE NE Health Protection Team, Phone: 0300 303 8596 option 1 Out of hours for health professionals only: please phone 0191 269 7714

[“How to Guide” Rapid Testing on-site \(LFDs\) in Secondary Schools and colleges](#)

[“How to Guide” Rapid Testing of Educational Staff and Secondary Age pupils at home \(self-test\)](#)

[Digital handbook](#)

[Schools COVID-19 operational guidance \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

Health and Safety Risk Assessment – Wider re-opening Schools – COVID-19

Academy / School	Bede Academy – Secondary site		Assessment No.	
Site	Sixth Avenue	Location	Blyth	
Subject of Assessment	This risk assessment is written in response to current COVID rates, and following government guidelines for schools. At North site, this involves approximately 1400 students, aged 11-18 years. **For Mass Asymptomatic Testing, please see 'Covid-19 Asymptomatic Testing In Schools' risk assessment template**			
Assessed by		Date	8 th July 2020	Review date
				9 th July 2020 by Trustees

	A Thelwell / J Normanton		Updated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10th November 2020 3rd January 2021 24th February 2021 7th July 2021 28th November 2021 3rd January 2022 19th March 2022 		5 th Jan 2021 March 2021 July 2021 30 th September 2021 1 st January 2022 26 th January 2022 25 th April 2022
Details of workplace/activity	Students and employees partaking in school activities within the school premises, including general classroom activities, break-times, dining playgrounds, arrival and departure (including pick-up and drop off where applicable), first aid and external visitors to the school.			Persons Affected <i>(Who may be harmed)</i>	
				Students, Employees (including Central Services Staff), Contractors and Visitors.	

Context Statement:

Protective measures for Covid-19 management in the academy will focus on the following four key actions:

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

The academy will, however, have plans in place which will facilitate a smooth and straightforward return to remote learning, should a school closure (full or partial) be required, as part of a local outbreak. In such an instance, guidance will be sought from Public Health England.

Hazards and Risks		Control Measures	Risk Level <i>(Very High, High, Medium, Low)</i>	Further Actions	Residual Risk <i>(Very High, High, Medium, Low)</i>
1.	Spread/contraction of COVID-19 due to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school has informed parents, students, carers, employees and visitors not to enter the school if they are 	medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus on three key principles: wash your hands, maintain good ventilation, stay 	low

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<p>interaction with a person who has symptoms of the disease, a person who may be asymptomatic or lack of information on how infection risks are controlled in the school.</p> <p>Stress or anxiety caused due to lack of support, information or staff consultation.</p>	<p>displaying any symptoms of coronavirus (following the COVID-19 guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employees have had sufficient training and briefing regarding infection control and school protocols; • In relation to mental health and stress support organisation, details are available to staff including confidential employee help lines and information that can be provided to students; • Hazard reporting mechanism are in place and easily accessible; • Talks with staff about the planned changes have taken place, including discussing whether additional training would be helpful. • COVID-19 guidelines are published in the school's website • Parents/Carers are informed of the general arrangements being made and what is expected of them, emphasising their role in terms of the local and national approach would also be appropriate as that potentially impacts on school life and the whole pandemic control measures • People deemed vulnerable take particular care to minimise contact with others and are advised to follow <u>Guidance on shielding and protecting people who are clinically extremely vulnerable from COVID-19</u> • Risk assessments and plans are consulted and discussed with relevant staff, including on a one-to-one basis for some to enable staff to speak about their own situation and reasonable adjustments to be made 		<p>home with positive test. Taught to children and reinforced with signage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff and parental videos and handbooks provided, to ensure all informed of actions • Staff and parent letters are sent to update immediately following government updates • Review of events and communication with parents when cases increase. Work with Public Health. • Signage to reinforce rules and routines. • Staggered return by students over 4th-5th January, so that onsite testing can take place • Use of rapid test centre for testing; • All students on return from summer break (2 x lateral flow tests, 3-5 days apart). Use of INSET 2 and staggered induction day in week 1. (see Appendix 1) • Use of lateral flow tests by staff twice a week provided by the academy. Staff inform SLT immediately so cover can be organised. • Home testing kits to be provided and taken twice per week by all students, until further notice • all students to be given an on-site test in January 2022, on their return from the Christmas break 	

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school will try as far as practically possible to be flexible and accommodate additional measures for vulnerable people where appropriate Specific risk assessments for new and expectant mothers are completed 		<p>Please see Appendix 2: Bede Academy COVID-19 rapid test Centre - Risk Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> encourage staff and eligible students to have covid vaccination and booster. Work with local immunisation team to offer vaccines on site return to wearing of face masks in public places from 29/11/21, in line with new government guidelines, as a response to Omicron variant return to wearing face masks in all indoor areas, including classrooms, from 4th January 2022 review of events and contact points; return to video assemblies as a response to emerging threat from Omicron variant March 2022: Allow the wearing of masks for anyone who wishes. 	
2.	Spread/contraction of COVID-19 due to poor hygiene measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students are required to complete hand washing / sanitisation on entry to the school; Students and staff are required to complete hand washing / sanitisation as they move from one room to the next or use shared equipment Entrance doors are held open, reducing the number of occupants touching the doors; 	medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hand sanitising stations at all entry points, in each classroom and in communal spaces Signage in washrooms re. importance of handwashing Groups will enter the building through designated entrances. Given that they are to be collected from outside and escorted 	low

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand sanitiser stations are located at the entrance to the school (classroom or other). All occupants are required to wash their hands (soap/water or Hand sanitiser) on entry to the school; • Good hand washing signage to instruct students how to do this effectively is displayed. • Unnecessary touching of the face is discouraged. • Teachers will remind students to use tissues and bin them once used. If tissues are not readily available exactly when needed occupants are reminded to cough or sneeze into their arm; ‘catch it, bin it, kill it’; 		<p>into the building, teacher can hold the door open and then sanitise hands on arrival at their classroom. Routes through the building will have doors held open, in order to avoid the need for doors to be handled. Doors in stair wells to be wedged for arrival / departure times, and wedges to be removed in the event of a fire alarm.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom doors supplied with wedges and to be wedged open when lessons are taking place; only teaching staff allocated to the group are allowed to handle the door, and are instructed to remove the wedge when vacating the room, for fire safety reasons • All groups given a designated stairwell and entry route • Teachers are advised to wash their hands (or use a hand sanitizer) after handling student books, and to carry out “live feedback/whole class feedback” where possible, to minimise the movement of piles of books between home and the academy (see feedback guidelines provided by the academy). • PPE provided to medical staff where such contact might be needed • Box of tissues to be provided in all classrooms 	

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3.	Spread/contraction of COVID-19 due to lack of ventilation	medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All classroom doors to be wedged open At least one window to be open in all classrooms / shared spaces; in windowless spaces, ventilation unit to be on highest setting CO2 monitors added to small teaching spaces or spaces where ventilation is a known issue in order to monitor air quality levels. 	low
4.	Spread/contraction of COVID-19 due to lack of adequate cleaning measures.	medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cleaning rotas devised to increase time on both sites Designated room for any person showing symptoms of coronavirus to be placed awaiting collection (interview room). To be thoroughly deep cleaned if used for this purpose and individual to be tested. If individual tests positive, the academy will follow the guidelines set out by the government, namely liaising with the local health protection team All classrooms provided with basic cleaning kit, and stored in appropriate location. Teachers to be issued with individual laptops and whiteboard pens, so that shared use of facilities is minimised, given teacher movement between rooms NSP to ensure that, if staff numbers are depleted due to staff requiring isolation, 	low

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				<p>there is always the appropriate number of staff on site. Deploy from South, other schools in the trust, supply agencies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cleaning regime will be upgraded and decreased in line with any local outbreaks. 	
5.	<p>Spread/contraction of COVID-19 due to insufficient First aid measures. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dealing with general First aid; Lack of trained first aiders; Dealing with a suspected case of Covid-19; Inappropriate handling / removal of clinical waste Intimate care procedures. Aerosol Generating 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Qualified first aiders are in place at an appropriate ratio for paediatric first aiders for Early Years provision (Note there is a three month additional time allowed for requalification due to current restrictions); The school has a specific room dedicated for suspected cases of COVID-19; Occupants (staff or students) who display symptoms of the virus during the school day will be isolated in the designated room until additional medical assistance can be gained. This may be 111 support, an ambulance or until they leave the site to self-isolate; Staff escorting the individual will be provided with disposable gloves and apron if the 2 meter social distancing rule cannot be maintained Where the risk of contact with droplets to the face, e.g. from coughing or vomiting, face protection should be provided The classroom area or workspace the individual leaves will be subject to a hard surface clean with appropriate disinfectant products and all waste double bagged and stored securely for 72 hours before disposal. 	high	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designated room: glass office next to reception these spaces are to be used only for symptomatic individuals and are to have no other function. Full PPE provided for First Aid and nursery use Additional training has already been provided for First Aiders during wider-reopening training days KGr to ensure that, if staff numbers are depleted due to staff requiring isolation, there is always the appropriate number of First Aiders on site. 	low

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedures (AGP) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff or contractors carrying out the area clean should be provided with a minimum of disposable gloves, aprons, mop heads or paper towels. • Where visible contamination, e.g. saliva droplets, is present face protection in the form of mask, goggles or face shield will be provided. • All building users advised re monitoring their own health, reporting of symptoms and self-isolating • Where available, the school will provide individual displaying symptoms with a home testing kit – where the individual is a pupil, the kit will be provided to their parent or carer • First aiders required to assist this person will wear full PPE including, apron, gloves, mask and visor; • First aiders have completed appropriate training for ‘donning and doffing’ PPE – NHS video / advice https://www.hse.gov.uk/news/face-mask-ppe-rpe-coronavirus.htm • PPE is disposed of in accordance with NHS COVID-19 waste management guidance; https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings • The first aid room will be cleaned frequently and after each use (when first aid care has been provided). • All student allergies, asthma etc to be shared with staff and the location of devices such as epi pens and inhalers. • Staff dispensing medication to students should minimise contact and their wash hands before and after dispensing 			

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the medication. If required, gloves will be worn by staff when giving medication

- Where appropriate, students should take the medication out of the blister packs/bottles then place the unused ones back in the cupboard, etc.

Waste disposal measures

Waste control measure from possible cases of COVID-19 and cleaning of areas where possible cases have been identified (including disposable cloths and tissues) are as follows:

- Put in a plastic rubbish bag and tied when full;
- The plastic bag is placed in a second bin bag and tied;
- It is put in a suitable and secure place and marked for storage until the individual's test results are known;
- Waste is stored safely and kept away from children;
- Waste is not put in communal waste areas until negative test results are known or the waste has been stored for at least 72 hours;
- If the individual tests negative, this can be put in with the normal waste;
- If the individual tests positive, then waste is stored for at least 72 hours and then put in with the normal waste;
- If storage for at least 72 hours is not appropriate, a collection as a Category B infectious waste is arranged by either local waste collection authority if they currently collect your waste or otherwise by a specialist clinical waste contractor. They will supply you with orange

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		clinical waste bags for waste bags can be sent for appropriate treatment.			
6	Lack of staffing / insufficient staff ratios	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adequate ratio of staff to children will be maintained and is assessed on a daily basis, based on potential staff illness or self-isolation; Children are suitably supervised at all times; 	Low – given removal of need to self-isolate for all fully vaccinated adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrangements under constant review and staffing shortages will be addressed in the usual way. Staff risk assessments to be reviewed Additional cover supervisor has been employed to help support staff absence issues (now three in total) Staff log maintained for individuals who are self-isolating, in order to identify if staffing levels become tight. If additional staffing cannot be secured, a staggered timetable will be considered. Use of additional supply teachers, in order to manage periods of high staff absence, and merging / collapsing of classes where student numbers drop due to mass isolation. New seating plans established to minimise mixing. Support from Bede South site if short of catering and facilities staff. Revert to sandwich lunch if short of catering staff. Wellbeing support for all staff who feel pressure due to staff shortage 	low

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7.	Lack of suitable premises management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school has applied the series of guidance documents and advice sent out by Judicium regarding continued premises management at this time; Premises staff levels are maintained and suitable for the use of the building; Appropriate cleaning and premises staffing levels are in place; Waste removal and enhanced cleaning programs are in place for the potential coronavirus contaminated waste; Contingency in place for sudden premises staff absence; The guidance provided in Judicium Education Newsletters 'Managing School Premises during COVID-19 outbreak', a six part series of guidance documents (in the form of newsletters) and a 'Managing Premises Functions' separate risk assessment has been completed. 	low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site management meetings and walk-throughs with SLT and maintenance team INSET provided to familiarise with routines and COVID adjustments Assembly reminders to keep everyone abreast of any local changes. NSP to ensure that, if staff numbers are depleted due to staff requiring isolation, there is always the appropriate number of staff on site. Deploy from South, other schools in the trust, supply agencies. <p>Additional cleaning will be stepped up and down in line with localised outbreaks and infection levels of Covid 19. All current cleaning stations will remain in place and in use.</p>	low
8.	Hazardous substance management, unsuitable COSHH management and use of chemicals leading to ill-health or fire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable storage and management of flammable hand sanitizer is in place; All chemicals used for the cleaning of school buildings and equipment is COSHH assessed and managed appropriately; Material safety data sheets are held for all chemicals and readily available to all staff; All cleaning chemicals are stored safely and securely in accordance with requirements; 	low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional training for cleaning staff and provision of necessary PPE 	low

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> COSHH safety training has been completed by all those using chemicals for cleaning; Appropriate PPE is available for all cleaning including suitable PPE for cleaning of potential coronavirus contaminated rooms or equipment. 			
9.	Fire and evacuation procedures being inadequate at this time due to lack of trained fire wardens or occupants being spread around the building without suitable procedures in place.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evacuation plans have been reviewed and communicated with staff Fire drill to be undertaken at regular intervals, as usual All other fire system testing and maintenance has continued as normal. Ensure accurate maintenance of registers, given numbers who may be off with Covid at any one point in time. 	low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire evacuation policy under review and new arrangements to be shared during staff training Existing fire lines allocated to groups; and additional line numbers added to reflect increase in PAN. Social distancing will not be possible in the event of a fire evacuation, but the risk from fire to the academy community is greater than the risk from Covid Sixth formers to have access cards to ensure reliable records of students on site, given adjusted sixth form timetables All staff told to sweep area as they leave the building in the absence of trained fire wardens 	low
10.	Damage to staff and student mental health and wellbeing, due to stress, unsettled routines and trauma of the pandemic, and possible associated bereavement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principals to ensure regular communication with staff, to reassure that all planning is driven by the risk assessment with staff and student health and wellbeing at the heart of decision making at all stages Share risk assessment with staff prior to opening once approved by trustees, in the format of a staff presentation / handbook, along with detail about routines and 	high	<p>For staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure staff are provided with adequate breaks Ensure manageable work/life balance Line management structure to keep an eye on staff wellbeing and to refer any concerns up the chain. 	medium

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		<p>expectations, and make entire risk assessment document available to all</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training and consultation opportunities provided with early reviews of processes taking into account staff input. • Consult with Trust Health and Safety advisor – Judicium as well as take into account guidelines from unions and other sources to ensure as wider a range of concerns as practicable are addressed – though acknowledging that not all concerns can be allayed). • Employees have had sufficient training and briefing regarding infection control and school protocols; • Staff are up to date on other related guidance and support in relation to themselves and students such as stress and wellbeing including: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak • In relation to mental health and stress support organisation, details are available to staff including confidential employee help lines and information that can be provided to students; • There are communication and support networks in place for staff and if there are particular concerns staff can raise them quickly and effectively; 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resume staff briefing, via zoom if needed, to ensure regular contact with the staff team (including reflection to support well-being and ethos), ‘Teachmeets’ to support sustainable online working, and social events/activities (quiz/virtual choir etc). • Create mental health and wellbeing support arrangements, including ongoing signposts for support including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anna Freud Foundation • www.headspace.com • www.calm.com • Co-ordinate staff ‘mental health allies’ volunteers. • Additional confidential support offered outside of ESF via www.educationsupport.org.uk <p>For students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular student wellbeing checks for those known to be struggling, and support plans in place where adjustments are needed 	

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff are briefed and consulted on school procedures and the plans for re-entry of students through email and staff training days and zoom calls 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update to welfare section of Academy website, and signposting support organisations, as well as school arrangements, through publications to parents Form tutors to remain key point of contact in the academy, and also for any who are having to work from home (via google classrooms) New Personal Development Curriculum programme to be delivered weekly include wellbeing checks and advice led by a newly appointed Personal Development Lead. Ongoing work with outside agencies, and regular contact with local authority support services Welcome back banner and bunting to greet student return, to reduce the impact of the changes to their known environment. Staff at the gates to meet and greet Students who are working from home have regular contact with Academic Team (support in use of Teams), welfare team (to touch base) and class teachers / form tutors through daily lesson interactions. 	

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re-orientation days with a focus on wellbeing 	
11.	Transmission of Covid-19 via food preparation, handling, storage, contact surfaces or packaging.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Kitchen/Catering Manager has reviewed and implemented the <u>Guidance for food businesses on coronavirus (COVID-19)</u> The Kitchen/Catering Manager has reviewed and implemented FSA <u>guidance on good hygiene practices</u> in food preparation and <u>PHE guidance</u> The HACCP processes and waste disposal arrangements have been reviewed to reduce the spread of coronavirus 	medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure all kitchen activity fully risk-assessed and safety measures implemented to protect catering staff and canteen users. 	low
12.	Spread/contraction of Covid-19 due not acting appropriately when a case is suspected or confirmed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If anyone becomes unwell in school with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature they are sent home/their parents or carer are contacted to collect them and they are advised to follow <u>COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection</u> Parents/Carers are informed that a responsible adult should be on standby in order to collect their child from school if they become unwell during the school day. The name of the person who will collect the child needs to be provided and recorded for safeguarding The school has identified the <u>Local Health Protection Team (HPT)</u> so they can be contacted immediately in the case of a case, the HPT details are available to the SLT <p>PHE North East Health Protection Team, Floor 2 Citygate, Gallowate, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 4WH</p>	high	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All site users instructed not to attend if they test positive. Signage in place to reinforce. Arrangements communicated to parents and staff. Continue to run remote provision, through TEAMS for students unable to attend; will allow for an easy return to remote working if a localised lockdown is imposed. Designated reporting email set up, and articulated through website, newsletters and welcome message on phone line. Senior team “on call” during holidays, weekends and evenings, in order to manage reported positive 	low

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	<p>Phone: 0300 303 8596 option 1</p> <p>Out of hours for health professionals only: please phone 0191 269 7714</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school keeps informed of Government and Department for Education guidance and updates To avoid attendance to the school, remote education plans are in place for students or groups that need to self-isolate A contingency plan is in place for a local outbreak, and if the school is asked to close temporarily by HPT or local authority to help control transmission. The plan may involve a return to remaining open only for vulnerable children and the children of critical workers only, and providing remote education for all other pupils. 		<p>tests and work flow designed and implemented.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any positive reported LFD required to self isolate and confirm with a PCR. Proof of results to be shared with the academy; no return for 10 days unless negative PCR result shared or two negative lateral flow tests on day 6 and 7. Any student or staff member identified as a close contact to take daily lateral flow tests for 7 days. 	

Appendix 1: staggered return arrangements, January 2022

	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	VI
Tuesday 4 th January	<p>In full day. Testing from 8.30-10am.</p> <p>Focus in lesson times will be on</p>	<p>Work from home – lessons on MSTeams</p>	<p>Work from home – lessons on MSTeams</p>	<p>In full day. Testing from 2-3.10pm</p>	<p>In full day. Testing 10am-11.50am</p>	<p>In full day. Testing 11.30am-1pm</p> <p>Y12 consent workshop from 8.30-11.15am</p>

	preparation for mid year exams					
Wednesday 5 th January	Mid year exams	In full day. Testing 9am-11.30am	In full day. Testing 11.30am-12.50pm	Normal timetable	Normal timetable	Normal timetable
Thursday 6 th January	Mid year exams	Normal timetable	Normal timetable	Normal timetable	Normal timetable	Normal timetable
Friday 7 th January	Mid year exams	Normal timetable	Normal timetable	Normal timetable	Normal timetable	Normal timetable

Clarification Required by Trustees		Responses
	Late arrival of students – consistent clear message of the process to be reflected in the risk assessment and referenced in the attendance policy, if necessary.	The Senior Leaders and Pastoral Leaders assigned to each zone are responsible for ensuring that late arrivals are dealt with in line with our attendance policy, applying sanctions where necessary. The arrival points on the North site have been chosen to allow sufficient space to line up late arrivals without risk of mixing with students arriving for other zones – they can be kept at at least 2 metres distance and sent via their designated route to their zones without moving through other zone areas.
	Update with the names of the assessor and review dates	This is now done. See page 8.
	P29 requires completion of risk and residual levels.	The risk and residual levels are identified on page 28. Page 29 contains a continuation of the actions put in place to mitigate the risk and residual levels on page 28 under point 16.
26/2/21	Health and Safety representative (Mrs Attley) needs to be involved in consultation process	JNO has shared this with RAT, ahead of sharing with all staff through their training days
26/2/21	Parental survey results should be routinely shared with Local Governing Body	To be built in to LGB business agendas

Please note:

All controls are subject to change should government guidance change due to changes to the 'R' rate. This could change on a daily basis. Government and DfE guidance MUST be regularly reviewed. Risk assessment must be reviewed if there is a significant change.

In order to calculate the risk level please use the Judicium Education 'Guide to risk assessment'. This document is available on our template site and includes a risk matrix. If required, you have unlimited access to the Judicium e-learning library including 'Risk Assessment Training for Schools – General'.

Following assessment if no further actions are assessed to be required please mark an X in the "Further Actions" box. If however additional controls or actions are assessed to be required please place a ✓ in the box and note the action in the action plan.

Any further actions identified should be completed before the assessed task is carried out.