

## Westlands First School and Nursery Covid-19 Risk Assessment March 2022

**Current Risk Assessment Issues** - The following risk assessment has been written using the latest Covid-19 Guidance for Educational settings ( 24:02:22) and Mainstream schools. This marks a new phase in the government’s response to the pandemic, moving away from stringent restrictions on everyone’s day-to-day lives, towards advising people on how to protect themselves and others, as we learn to live with the Covid-19 virus and reduce the disruption to our children’s education. This risk assessment takes this into account whilst maintaining some control measures to avoid any potential spread of COVID-19 or other variants throughout the school.

Consider:	Suggestions /consideration	Issues & actions to manage risk	R	A	G
Control measures	<p>You should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ensure good hygiene for everyone.</li> <li>2. Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes.</li> <li>3. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.</li> <li>4. Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.</li> </ol>	<p>Frequent and thorough handwashing is now regular practice for all adults and children.</p> <p>Staff are requested to wipe frequently used surfaces in classrooms and learning spaces.</p> <p>Continue to maintain good hygiene practice by all staff &amp; pupils washing their hands on arrival at school using soap and water, before snacks &amp; lunchtimes. This is to be carried out at sinks in classrooms and toilets.</p> <p>Staff are permitted to use hand sanitiser but not pupils.</p> <p>All visitors/contractors to sanitise hands before entering school.</p> <p>The ‘Catch it , Bin it, Kill it’ approach will continue and these bins should continue to be used for soiled tissues etc .</p> <p>PPE should it be required is stored in the First Aid Room, LSB, Reception &amp; Nursery</p>			



		<p>classrooms and the school bungalow. The kitchen in the school bungalow remains the isolation/ quarantine area.</p> <p>Posters around school serve as a reminder as do the location of 'Catch It, Bin It, Kill It ' bins located in all classrooms.</p> <p>At the end of the school day every Friday, class staff are to return empty/partially empty sanitising fluid bottles to the table in the school hall for refills of sanitising fluid and blue roll from Rachel Thornton ready for the following week.</p> <p>Parents/carers are to keep pupils off school for 48 hours if they have vomited and/or had diarrhoea.</p>		
Keep occupied spaces well ventilated	The school will be well ventilated and a comfortable teaching environment is maintained.	<p>Ventilation is a key factor in reducing the spread of Covid-19 and other viruses therefore windows and doors (but not fire doors) should be opened to ensure a well ventilated working environment.</p> <p>Air monitors are placed in various locations around school to monitor air levels as per government guidance.</p>		
Keeping pupils in bubbles to reduce mixing is no longer a requirement	We are currently operating as we did in pre-Covid times but it may become necessary to reintroduce year or class 'bubbles' for a temporary period, to reduce mixing between groups. This will be dependent on the number of confirmed cases and will be monitored closely by SLT.	<p>Our priority is for school to deliver face-to-face, high quality education to all pupils. We are planning and delivering an engaging creative curriculum with minimal disruption.</p> <p>Assemblies will slowly return to face to face but this will be a gradual process dependent on</p>		



		<p>the number of cases. For now whole school Pepe assemblies 2.30 pm on Fridays and EYFS, KS1, and KS2 assemblies remain virtual on a weekly basis.</p> <p>School gate will open for all children at 8.40am and close at 8.55 am. Pupils are late if they are not present for registration at 8.55am.</p> <p>Year groups will continue to use their separate entrances and staggered arrival/departure times to reduce footfall and encourage social distancing on the school grounds. The one way system will remain in place- see timetable</p> <p>Break and lunch will return to pre-Covid times with packed lunches consumed in the lunch hall – see timetable. This will however, be monitored by SLT and in the event of increased infections rates , return to restricted access in the lunch hall.</p> <p>Breakfast Club will continue for working families and identified pupils agreed by SLT. This will return to the lunch hall and pupils will be able to mix beyond class &amp; family groups. This will be regularly reviewed by SLT.</p>		
Attendance	<p>School attendance is mandatory for all pupils of compulsory school age and it is priority to ensure that as many children as possible regularly attend school. All pupils should attend school unless they are one of the very small number of children under paediatric or other specialist care who have been advised by their GP or clinician not to attend.</p>	<p>Guidance on supporting pupils at school with medical conditions will be followed with support from the Educational Welfare Officer.</p>		
	<p>The legal requirement for confirmed cases of Covid-19 to self-isolate has now ceased. However, UKHSA have produced clear guidance</p>	<p>Staff &amp; pupils who test positive for COVID-19 should not return to school for at least 5 days,</p>		



<p>School staff will not be expected to continue regular asymptomatic testing. Staff to follow asymptomatic testing advice for the general population.</p>	<p>stating that Please see guidance: COVID-19: people with COVID-19 and their contacts - GOV.UK (<a href="http://www.gov.uk">www.gov.uk</a>)</p>	<p>and only then after 2 negative lateral flow tests and if they do not have a temperature.</p> <p>School is no longer able to supply Lateral Flow testing kits. The government is phasing these out over the next few weeks.</p>			
<p>Face coverings are no longer advised for pupils, staff and visitors in classrooms or communal areas</p>	<p>Staff and visitors may choose to continue to wear face masks in school where social distancing is not possible. 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>	<p>Social distancing is encouraged both inside and outside the school building.</p> <p>If there is an outbreak in school the wearing of face coverings will be reintroduced.</p> <p>Where possible parent meetings should still take place either as a phone call / over Zoom , these will gradually return to face to face meetings and gatherings. SLT to monitor and advise staff as this changes.</p> <p>Visitors will meet where possible in the sunshine room. Sports coaches will use the indoor school hall if the weather outside is unsuitable. The restriction on visitors to school is slowly lifting and this will continue to be monitored by SLT.</p>			
<p>Pupil wellbeing</p>	<p>Some pupils may be experiencing a variety of emotions in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, such as anxiety, stress or low mood.</p>	<p>School will access useful sources of support on promoting and supporting mental health and wellbeing in schools guided by the TISUK lead in school , Karen Denby. The school's Families &amp; Safeguarding Lead , Pip Cavilla is also the mental health and psychological health first aider for adults and children on site. All staff &amp; pupils have access to the services provided by</p>			



		the Wellbeing Hub located in the school bungalow.		
Staff wellbeing	Some staff may be experiencing a variety of emotions in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, such as anxiety, stress or low mood.	SLT will continue to share useful sources of support on promoting and supporting mental health and wellbeing in schools. All staff have the option of accessing the Wellbeing Hub by speaking to PC & requesting a referral to one of the Wellbeing counsellors.		