



# St Alban's Catholic High School

## Health and Safety Risk Assessment



<b>Date of Assessment</b>	<b>Latest update</b> 01/03/2022	<b>Assessed by</b>	Nick Berry – Assistant Headteacher
		<b>Others involved with this assessment</b>	Richard Denny – Site Manager/H&S Team Jenny Heale – Science Technician/H&S Team Phil Dance – Governor Craig Tournay-Godfrey – Former staff member
<b>Those at risk</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students</li> <li>• Staff</li> <li>• Contractors and essential visitors</li> <li>• Family groups</li> </ul>	<b>Overall risk</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Catching or spreading the COVID-19 virus</li> </ul>

### Risk Classification:

<b>Low</b>	<b>Social distancing and reduced contact with touchpoints</b>
<b>Medium</b>	<b>Intermittent close contact</b>
<b>High</b>	<b>Prolonged close contact and potential touchpoints</b>

## Risk Assessment update – March 2022

Following the removal of all legal restrictions and requirements for COVID-19, we will be making the following changes to our original risk assessment (These updates are also reflected in the main risk assessment in the next section):

TASK	HAZARDS TO YOU	CURRENT RISK RATING	CONTROL/MITIGATION MEASURES	POTENTIAL RATING
<b>From March 2022</b>	Students and staff may be uncertain of the changes to the current procedures	Medium	Staff will be given an update in staff briefing on the first day after the half term break. Students will be shown a PowerPoint with updated information in form time.	Low
	A student or member of staff returns to school carrying the virus	High	Parents/Carers will be informed by ParentMail of the national changes to the testing procedures. They will be asked to use one of their remaining tests to check their current COVID status before returning to school on the Monday. This information will also be put on our website and Instagram account.  The school has been advised not to provide any further test packs to students or staff. The remaining packs will be stored to be distributed and used if there is a future outbreak among the school population.	Low
	A student or member of staff receives a positive lateral flow test result.	High	Parents/Carers and staff have been sent details of current government recommendations for self-isolation. Although this is no longer a legal requirement the school will continue to follow this guidance.	Low
	To mitigate for aerosol virus particles in indoor areas.	Medium	All students will be encouraged to wear face coverings while moving around the school indoors, unless exempt. This will not be required when seated in classrooms. Staff will also be advised to wear a face covering when moving around the school and if moving around in a classroom (This is not required by law).	Low

	Potential transmission of the virus in indoor areas and queues and on surfaces	<b>Medium</b>	One-way systems in corridors and staircases will continue to be used. Phase 5 timings for the school day will continue, including time between lessons to ease crowding in corridors and to provide time for tables to be sanitised during lesson breaks. Staff will continue to be asked to keep their rooms well ventilated.	<b>Low</b>
	Design of classrooms	<b>Medium</b>	Classrooms will no longer be required to be in rows facing the front. Groups of tables may be used to facilitate group work.  It is also recommended that staff continue to wear a mask when moving around the room.  Other recommendation for use of rooms are as before and can be found later in this document.	<b>Low</b>

## Risk Assessment for full re-opening in September 2020 (including updates)

TASK	HAZARDS TO YOU	CURRENT RISK RATING	CONTROL/MITIGATION MEASURES	POTENTIAL RATING
<b>UK Government - System of controls</b>				
Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell	A member of staff or student comes into school with COVID-19 symptoms	<b>High</b>	Staff and students will follow the current government guidance about self-isolation and when they can return to the school environment.	<b>Low</b>
Clean hands thoroughly more often than usual	Coronavirus transferred to or from touchpoint or another person due to poor hand hygiene.	<b>Medium</b>	Hand gel dispensers in all main entrances and in all classrooms. Posters in entrances and toilet areas. Student and staff will be reminded of this regularly and will be included in training/integration sessions at start of term.	<b>Low</b>
Ensure good respiratory hygiene	Poor respiratory hygiene leading to coronavirus germs in the air or on surfaces	<b>Medium</b>	'Catch it, bin it, kill it' posters in main entrances. Student and staff will be reminded of this regularly and will be included in training/integration sessions at start of term.	<b>Low</b>

Introduce enhanced cleaning	Coronavirus germs on touchpoints and surfaces	Medium	All desks to be cleaned at end of each lesson where the room is used. Touchpoints and toilets to be cleaned at the end of each day.	Low
Minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible – <b>see section below</b>				
Face Coverings	Staff and students moving outside classrooms may find social distancing difficult	Medium	Although face coverings are no longer required by law, the school will continue to encourage their use when moving around the school indoors.  The school will no longer offer disposable face masks for all students as supplies are low and we can no longer order replacement stock. Remaining stock will be offered to staff and vulnerable students as required.	Low
Engage with the NHS Test and Trace process	A member of staff or student shows COVID-19 symptoms while in school	High	See section below in original RA Follow PHE guidelines (details <a href="#">here</a> ) Testing guidance <a href="#">here</a>	Low
Manage confirmed cases of coronavirus	A member of staff or student receives a positive results from a laboratory PCR conformation test	High	A letter has been sent home and is available <a href="#">on the school website</a> will the steps that will be taken by NHS Test and Trace	Low
Contain any outbreak	If two or more confirmed cases within 14 days	High	Support and advice will be provided by local Health Protection Team.	Medium
<b>Other controls</b>				
Staff / student safety	New variant poses greater risk of transmission among students and staff	Medium	See information above with regard to face coverings, lateral flow device testing and other mitigations.	Low
	Teaching assistants, who work closely with SEND students may find it hard to fulfil 2m distancing	Medium	Staff and students in this situation will be encouraged to wear face coverings while the student is being supported.	Low
	Students may not remember timings and procedures	Medium	Students will be reminded at the start of term in form time of one way corridors and stairs and other COVID related protocols.	Low
	Design of classroom increases risk of Coronavirus transmission.	Medium	Staff should distance from students where possible when teaching and are encouraged to wear masks in classrooms when moving about the room.  Windows and doors should be kept open to provide a supply of fresh air.	Low

	Movement around the school could increase the chance of spreading infection.	Medium	This risk will be mitigated by use of face coverings when moving around the school indoors and by one way systems for some stairs and corridors.	Low
	Risk of using subject specific equipment out of the normal context	High	Where a practical subject is taught out of its normal context, equipment will only be used where it is safe to do so. In this case a separate risk assessment will be organised.	Low
<b>Use of classrooms</b>	Under Phase 4 all staff will return to their department base and students will move to lessons as in previous years. This comes with a higher risk of infection by touchpoints and surfaces in classrooms.	High	Staff will be instructed on protocols for cleaning tables and equipment between each lesson where a new class is using the room. It will be the responsibility of the class teacher to ensure that appropriate cleaning takes place. Tables can be cleaned by students where appropriate.	Low
<b>Ventilation and air conditioning</b>	Coronavirus germs remain in the air due to poor ventilation or recycled air	Medium	Windows will be kept open during the school day to provide fresh air supply. Air conditioners should only be used where fresh air is used. If air conditioners recycle air for cooling they should be switched off. Students and staff will be asked to have sufficient warm clothing available for cold days.	Low
<b>Physical Activity</b>	Extra risk from use of sports equipment and contact sports	Medium	Any sports equipment used will be cleaned daily.	Low
<b>Behaviour</b>	A potential increase in behaviour issues due to the changes in provision and other possible issues due to the ongoing pandemic	Medium	An addendum to the behaviour policy has been written and will be reviewed once the new systems are embedded.  This policy will be strictly adhered to, especially with regard to COVID-19 risk.	Low
<b>Pastoral/ Welfare</b>	Possible increase in disclosures and mental health related issues	Medium	There may be a need, at least in the short term, for redeployment of staff to deal with an increase in such matters.  <b>There will also be time for reflection and support during form time each day.</b>	Low
<b>Fire evacuation and drills</b>	Students will not remember the procedures and will not follow them effectively	Medium	All students will receive regular training and there will be a practice fire evacuation each term.	Low