



Bethersden Primary School - Covid 19 Risk Assessment for full reopening of school to all children from Monday 8th March 2021

Location / Site	
Bethersden PRIMARY SCHOOL	
Activity / Procedure	
FULL RE-OPENING for all children and return of all staff	
Assessment date	
25 th February 2021	
Assessment serial number	
BPS-01	

Identify people at risk	
Employees	YES
Children	YES
Visitors	YES
Contractors	YES

Government guidance states for schools states:

“The safety of children and staff is our utmost priority.”

“The advice seeks to support staff working in schools, colleges and childcare settings, to deliver this approach in the safest way possible, focussing on measures they can put in place to help limit the risk of the virus spreading within education and childcare settings.”

“In education, childcare and social care settings, preventing the spread of the coronavirus involves dealing with direct transmissions (for instance, when in close contact with those sneezing and coughing) and indirect transmission (via touching contaminated surfaces.) A range of approaches and actions should be employed to do this.”

Government guidance for parents concerning re-opening of schools states:

“We have provided guidance and support to schools, colleges and child care settings on implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings to help them **reduce the risk of transmission as more children and young people return.**”

“Whilst such changes are likely to look different in each setting, as they will depend upon individual circumstances, they are all designed to minimise risks to children, staff and their families.

Schools and colleges continue to be best placed to make decisions about how to support and educate their pupils during this period. This will include:

Consideration of the pupils’ mental health and well being



<u>Identify hazard</u>	Record the hazard that could cause harm or injury - add appropriate detail about the type and location of hazards		
Lack of social distancing in the classroom resulting in direct transmission of the virus			
Existing level of risk	Consider current level of risk		
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NEGLIGIBLE
<u>Control measures</u>	List your control measures required to reduce risk - add appropriate detail about the type and location of controls		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All children will be seated facing the same direction to avoid sneezing, coughing and breathing on each other as much as possible 2. All excess and hard to clean furniture has been removed from classrooms and other areas around the school. 3. Children will be assigned seating and must stay at their desks when in the room. Year R, 1 and 2 will need to move more freely and use outdoor space for learning. <li style="background-color: yellow;">4. Write a whole school Health & Hygiene Brief for the children which is repeated every day with the children – (Include instructions how to line up, use of toilet, moving around the classroom, school etc.) Repeated regularly. 5. Social distancing charter created for, and with, the children 6. One way system for entering and exiting classrooms and clear rules on moving around the classroom to be established daily with children based on attendance and to be regularly reinforced during the day. 7. Class rules to re-visited and modelled many times a day and linked to school behaviour system - lots of praise for adherence and sanctions for non-compliance - increased focus on hand-washing and 'Catch it- Bin it - Kill it' 8. Children isolated if cannot adhere to charter and spoken to regarding the need for social distancing, parents may also be contacted 9. Learning activities for individual work where possible (pairings or group work to be dynamically risk assessed by class teams - consult with Leadership Group with queries) 10. Feedback - using large whiteboard and visualizer and interactive whiteboard not close interaction 11. Mark out an area for the teacher - 2m distancing at front of room 12. Children assigned desk and resources with no sharing of resources. Children not to bring in any resources from home other than those permitted. 13. Staff teams do not cross bubbles except in emergencies. If staff cross bubbles precautions to be taken including extra handwashing and distancing where possible. 14. Children stay in the classroom and do not mix with other groups 15. Bags, coats and lunchboxes kept in lockers 16. Regular handwashing routines established on entry to school, classrooms, before eating and after toileting 17. Staff given the option of wearing visor in the classroom, face coverings must be worn by all in communal areas 18. Children to be spread out in classrooms as much as possible 			



Remaining level of risk		Consider level of risk following use of control measures	
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NEGLIGIBLE



<u>Identify hazard</u>		Record the hazard that could cause harm or injury - add appropriate detail about the type and location of hazards	
Lack of social distancing using toilets and poor hygiene resulting in direct and indirect transmission of the virus			
Existing level of risk		Consider current level of risk	
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NEGLIGIBLE
<u>Control measures</u>		List your control measures required to reduce risk - add appropriate detail about the type and location of controls	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children reminded of good toilet hygiene and the need for it 2. Toilet bands / signing board used and only one boy and one girl allowed to go to toilet at a time - middle sinks closed for handwashing 3. Allocated toilets for different groups of children mainly in classrooms 4. Toilet timings to be staggered and all children encouraged to go when returning and leaving the classroom to avoid unnecessary movement around the school. N.B. children will not be refused access to the toilet 5. Hand gel used (on return to classroom) after toilet use as well as washing hands 6. Extra Signs in toilet re washing hands at age appropriate levels 7. Wedges for the toilet external doors 8. Extra soap, paper towels and hand sanitiser ordered to ensure we do not run out 9. Taps and surfaces cleaned throughout the day by staff and children advised to communicate with staff any issues around cleanliness - staff training organised and resources ordered 10. Toilets cleaned, disinfected and descaled at the end of each day 11. Allocated toilets for each class 			
Remaining level of risk		Consider level of risk following use of control measures	
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NEGLIGIBLE



<u>Identify hazard</u>		Record the hazard that could cause harm or injury - add appropriate detail about the type and location of hazards	
Lack of social distancing of parents/carers at drop off and collection resulting in direct transmission of the virus			
Existing level of risk		Consider current level of risk	
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NEGLIGIBLE
<u>Control measures</u>		List your control measures required to reduce risk - add appropriate detail about the type and location of controls	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No parents allowed on site except for in emergencies 2. Staggered drop off and collection times for year groups and within year groups using two entrances 3. Siblings to remain in parents' cars or with parents at safe distance (1m+) away if on foot. 4. Markers outside the classrooms for the children to wait - 5. Allocated entrance/exit points for all classes 6. Instructions shared re routines and social distancing between families in the morning with parents and children with clear signage around the premises 7. Signage for children displayed outside the classroom 8. Leadership Group to be on duty to supervise 9. Staggered drop off and pick up times for different year groups 10. Road Crossing Patrol supported in encouraging social distancing 11. Staff to park away from Wissenden Lane 12. New drop off and collection times and procedures in place and communicated to parents 13. Parents asked to wear face coverings when dropping off and collecting children in addition to previous control measures 14. Increased signage around the drop off and collection areas 			
Remaining level of risk		Consider level of risk following use of control measures	
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NEGLIGIBLE



<u>Identify hazard</u>		Record the hazard that could cause harm or injury - add appropriate detail about the type and location of hazards	
Lack of social distancing during playtimes and lunchtimes resulting in direct transmission of the virus			
Existing level of risk		Consider current level of risk	
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NEGLIGIBLE
<u>Control measures</u>		List your control measures required to reduce risk - add appropriate detail about the type and location of controls	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Staggered playtimes and allocated play area/equipment boxes in the first instance - cleaning products in each play box 2. Field to be divided to allow zones with 2 metre corridor between each 3. Reduced playtime equipment - hard surfaces and can be easily cleaned 4. Games discussed which encourage social distancing - football passing 5. Staff supervision throughout - actively encouraging and modelling social distancing 6. Children practice talking 1+ meters apart - modelled by staff 7. Each bubble has dedicated space on the playground and on the field 8. Handwashing routines to be reiterated on return to classroom 			
Remaining level of risk		Consider level of risk following use of control measures	
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NEGLIGIBLE



<u>Identify hazard</u>	Record the hazard that could cause harm or injury - add appropriate detail about the type and location of hazards		
Lack of social distancing when eating lunch resulting in direct transmission of the virus			
Existing level of risk	Consider current level of risk		
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NEGLIGIBLE
<u>Control measures</u>	List your control measures required to reduce risk - add appropriate detail about the type and location of controls		
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Children wash hands before and after eating2. All children served at their tables in the hall and to remain seated throughout their allocated time3. Children with packed lunches to bring own cutlery4. Tables sanitised between sittings5. Revised menu and serving arrangements in place to reduce the number of contact points6. Staff wear visors in serving areas			
Remaining level of risk	Consider level of risk following use of control measures		
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NEGLIGIBLE



<u>Identify hazard</u>		Record the hazard that could cause harm or injury - add appropriate detail about the type and location of hazards	
Lack of social distancing in the corridors resulting in direct transmission of the virus			
Existing level of risk		Consider current level of risk	
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NEGLIGIBLE
<u>Control measures</u>		List your control measures required to reduce risk - add appropriate detail about the type and location of controls	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children staying in their classroom and accessing outside from classroom door or designated route 2. One child going to toilet at one time 3. Messages to office via telephones so adults remain in bubble zone 4. Staff use empty classrooms and alcoves to maximise the distance between each other 5. One way system established with clear signage marking exit and entry doors - staff to monitor 6. Agree instructions with children concerning going and returning to toilet 7. When moving bubble around the school - 1+ metres between children - one adult at back insisting the distance is maintained - regularly practice this in the first few days 8. Children do not need to move around school other than to toilets 9. Staff to wear face coverings when not in the classroom. Can be removed for eating and drinking in the staffroom 10. All communication between bubbles, including the office must be done using the phone or in the outdoors 11. Tray in the staffroom for lunch orders to be placed in to avoid congestion in the school office 			
Remaining level of risk		Consider level of risk following use of control measures	
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NEGLIGIBLE



<u>Identify hazard</u>		Record the hazard that could cause harm or injury - add appropriate detail about the type and location of hazards	
Contact of shared resources resulting in indirect transmission of the virus			
Existing level of risk		Consider current level of risk	
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NEGLIGIBLE
<u>Control measures</u>		List your control measures required to reduce risk - add appropriate detail about the type and location of controls	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children have individual pencil cases in line with school policy - no stationery will be allowed into school 2. Tubs of resources for individuals if needed - maths cubes etc 3. All equipment cleaned before being used by another child and each night and left to dry if not same person using them the next day 4. Tables, door handles and other surfaces cleaned with sanitising spray regularly during the day by staff and every night 5. Lessons planned so resources are individual and not shared - or on white board 6. Resources on tables ready for lesson and not distributed within the lesson 7. Children encouraged to wash hands / use hand gel before lessons and after each lesson 8. Verbal marking of children's learning in books so as to avoid touching surfaces 9. Children will be allocated individual resources 10. Any essential shared resources to be cleaned down 			
Remaining level of risk		Consider level of risk following use of control measures	
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NEGLIGIBLE



<u>Identify hazard</u>		Record the hazard that could cause harm or injury - add appropriate detail about the type and location of hazards	
Children's well-being and mental health			
Existing level of risk		Consider current level of risk	
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NEGLIGIBLE
<u>Control measures</u>		List your control measures required to reduce risk - add appropriate detail about the type and location of controls	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children have all had regular contact with staff during this lockdown via the live lessons and registrations. 2. Providing familiarity of learning environments by ensuring furniture, displays and resources are age group specific 3. Recognise that some families may struggle with getting back into the swing of things and support these families where it is needed 4. Provide more open type activities in the afternoon 5. Large emphasis on reconnecting and rebuilding relationships 6. Children will have established different eating patterns – they may feel hungry more frequently – snack times may need to be introduced for a short while with families encouraged to send snacks 7. Ensure that behaviour expectations are re-established as quickly as possible 8. Remind children about how they speak to each other; how they treat each other and the expectations with regards to attitudes 9. All staff to place absolute emphasis on the school being a reduced risk environment and that they are loved and cared for 10. Aim to re-establish the culture and ethos that existed before 11. Greater emphasis on PE, music, art/DT, themes/projects and assessing children's wellbeing/readiness to learn. 12. All children will have daily contact with teachers 13. Welfare calls will be made to families identified as vulnerable 14. 'Circle' time discussions to take place throughout the day in all classes. 			
Remaining level of risk		Consider level of risk following use of control measures	
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NEGLIGIBLE



<u>Identify hazard</u>		Record the hazard that could cause harm or injury - add appropriate detail about the type and location of hazards	
Emotional distress of the staff - including anxiety			
Existing level of risk		Consider current level of risk	
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NEGLIGIBLE
<u>Control measures</u>		List your control measures required to reduce risk - add appropriate detail about the type and location of controls	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inclusion of all staff in risk assessment process - input into hazard identification and control measures and aware they have the responsibility and right (in a non-threatening way) to report concerns 2. Online or phone supervision for any staff who requests it - Nick Lord Staff meeting - virtually - to discuss concerns and shared control measures 3. Sharing of support helplines - Education Support 08000 562561 or SupportLine 4. At least one Leadership Group member of staff on site every day for staff to share concerns with 5. Risk assessments reviewed after day one, week one and fortnightly after that or as needed 6. Separate risk assessment for the office area - staff to use bubble phones instead of visiting the office - including signing in and registers 7. Designated "staff areas" areas for different groups of staff - including extra staffroom and changing facilities 8. Planned time for planning and preparation within the week especially for those with children in school 9. Remove any expectations beyond the school day (no taking books home to mark) 10. Staff able to go home and focus on their family members soon after children off site if they choose 11. Staff to have time to talk to Leadership Group about their personal situation 12. Internal support plan/system and put in place if required 13. Headteacher to hold bi-weekly Bubble De-Briefings to work through any concerns and develop practise 14. School has subscribed to Support Line 15. All staff reminded to contact SPG if they are worried 16. Regular/Weekly 'staff meeting' via Zoom to ensure everyone has the chance to interact? 			
Remaining level of risk		Consider level of risk following use of control measures	
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NEGLIGIBLE



<u>Identify hazard</u>		Record the hazard that could cause harm or injury - add appropriate detail about the type and location of hazards	
Risk of spreading virus due to close contact with children – working 1:1 with vulnerable children resulting in direct transmission of the virus			
Existing level of risk		Consider current level of risk	
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NEGLIGIBLE
<u>Control measures</u>		List your control measures required to reduce risk - add appropriate detail about the type and location of controls	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Seek expert guidance from special schools/virtual LIFT/Specialist Teachers regarding support for children with behaviour difficulties. 2. Individual risk assessments in place where necessary 3. Face shields available for duties requiring PPE 4. Extra disposable gloves ordered 5. Extra gloves, soap, hand sanitiser ordered with stocks already available in school 6. Reduced timetable / exclusion / inclusion considered if necessary if children are acting in a way staff are put at risk 7. Avoid face to face level with children where possible 8. Staff to wear face coverings in communal areas, visors (provided by school) can be worn in classrooms 9. Staff reminded to work alongside, rather than face to face, with children <p style="text-align: center;">Please note the Government guidance states “Wearing face coverings or face masks is not recommended”</p>			
Remaining level of risk		Consider level of risk following use of control measures	
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NEGLIGIBLE



<u>Identify hazard</u>		Record the hazard that could cause harm or injury - add appropriate detail about the type and location of hazards	
Risk of spreading virus due to poor hygiene resulting in indirect transmission of the virus			
Existing level of risk		Consider current level of risk	
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NEGLIGIBLE
<u>Control measures</u>		List your control measures required to reduce risk - add appropriate detail about the type and location of controls	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Anyone who is unwell with CV-19 symptoms must not attend school setting but should contact SPG at earliest opportunity to access support 2. Keep windows and doors open in order to aid ventilation. 3. Hand gel dispenser inside all bubbles as well as dedicated sinks and handwashing routines 4. Soap and hand gel ordered in large quantities 5. Extra soap dispensers and re-fills in each classroom 6. Children wash hands and hand gel on entry to school, before break, after break, before lunch, after lunch, leaving school, using the toilet and any time they cough or sneeze 7. Age appropriate hand washing posters replaced in all washing areas 8. Reminders how to wash hands properly - videos and posters 9. Procedure agreed for children to wash hands so thorough hand washing 10. Staff and children follow the 'Catch it, Bin it and Kill it' routine of good respiratory hygiene. 11. Each classroom to have a rubbish bin with lid removed to reduce contact surface 12. Staff to ensure there are always boxes of tissues available for all 13. Children required to bring their own water bottle to school to avoid risk of a cup being shared 			
Remaining level of risk		Consider level of risk following use of control measures	
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NEGLIGIBLE



<u>Identify hazard</u>		Record the hazard that could cause harm or injury - add appropriate detail about the type and location of hazards	
Risk of infection due to lack of cleaning resulting in indirect transmission of the virus			
Existing level of risk		Consider current level of risk	
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NEGLIGIBLE
<u>Control measures</u>		List your control measures required to reduce risk - add appropriate detail about the type and location of controls	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All surfaces, handles, toilets and shared equipment will be cleaned during the day using sanitising spray by staff and by the cleaning company 2. PPE will be worn by all cleaning staff 3. Some resources will be rotated and left to de-contaminate for at least 72 hours after cleaning to reduce the risk of indirect transmission 4. Soft furnishings and soft / cloth toys will be removed from use in classrooms where possible 5. Cleaners to return to work before the school re-opens fully and cleaning regime discussed with contract company 6. Some 'cleaning duties' to be undertaken by caretaker such as emptying bins to allow cleaners to concentrate on hard surfaces. Routines adapted such as reduced hoovering (lower risk of contamination) to allow focus on higher risk procedures 7. Cleaners have been briefed about extra returning children and the cleaning routine has been reviewed in light of this 8. Extra resources ordered for Bubble Cleaning throughout the day 			
Remaining level of risk		Consider level of risk following use of control measures	
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NEGLIGIBLE



<u>Identify hazard</u>	Record the hazard that could cause harm or injury - add appropriate detail about the type and location of hazards		
Risk of illness of vulnerable staff and family members through direct and indirect transmission of the virus			
Existing level of risk	Consider current level of risk		
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NEGLIGIBLE
<u>Control measures</u>	List your control measures required to reduce risk - add appropriate detail about the type and location of controls		
1. Regular discussions with staff, families and children returning 2. Twice weekly Lateral Flow Testing in place since end of January so staff providing a positive result will know early even asymptomatic 3. As staff reach JCVI priority groups more will become vaccinated reducing the risk			
Remaining level of risk	Consider level of risk following use of control measures		
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NEGLIGIBLE



<u>Identify hazard</u>	Record the hazard that could cause harm or injury - add appropriate detail about the type and location of hazards
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Lack of social distancing between staff and other adults (office staff) resulting in transmission of the virus

Existing level of risk	Consider current level of risk		
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NEGLIGIBLE

<u>Control measures</u>	List your control measures required to reduce risk - add appropriate detail about the type and location of controls
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1. Parents, visitors and contractors not to enter the school premises unless in an emergency – contact details clearly established and communicated
2. Encourage contact via email, telephone and text for communication
3. Use of Zoom for external meetings, Leadership Group, Governor meetings and staff meetings
4. Use on online webinars for staff CPD
5. Staff conversations to be held outdoors where possible or via telephone
6. Contractors encouraged to work on site out of school hours where possible
7. If adults do need to come into school allow one adult in reception at a time
8. There is no need for children or staff to visit the office as use of bubble phones is the method of communication including 'signing in/out'
9. Hand gel dispenser installed in the reception area
10. Essential visitors required to use the hand washing and hand sanitiser facilities upon arrival
11. Posters and signage installed to remind visitors of social distancing rules and handwashing
12. Office staff/Headteacher responsible for cleaning the office areas
13. New evacuation procedures shared with staff
14. Staff to be reminded of all procedures and informed of new ones by email once confirmed and before returning to school on Monday 8th March
15. Face coverings to be worn in communal areas, visors to be provided for those staff who wish to wear them in the classroom

Remaining level of risk	Consider level of risk following use of control measures		
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NEGLIGIBLE



OVERALL level of risk	Consider level of risk following use of control measures		
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NEGLIGIBLE
Assessor's comments	Insert comments relevant to findings as appropriate		
<p>Overall the risk in school is medium as all measures put in place require strict adherence by all members of the school community. Many variables exist as all measures are reliant on 'behaviours' which cannot be fully controlled.</p> <p>Staff have tested the above procedures with in excess of 30 (25% capacity) children and are confident that safety measures in place at the time of the risk assessment are appropriate.</p> <p>The school cannot ensure 1m+ social distancing and believe that this would be detrimental to the children's wellbeing so staff will use dynamic risk assessments and seek immediate support with any anxieties.</p> <p>All staff are aware of the procedures they should follow if they, a member of their family or a member of their bubble start to feel unwell with Covid-19 type symptoms including the procedures for requesting a test.</p> <p>With the enhanced measures in place it is planned that the risk of transmission of Covid is reduced to a manageable level. Staff and families will work together to protect all members of the school community.</p>			

Name of assessor	Signature of assessor	Date
Stuart Gawthorpe		1st March 2021

Governor's comments	Insert comments relevant to assessment as appropriate

Governors contributing	Signature on behalf of the Governing Body	Date
Jenn Read, Kate Kirk		
Risk assessment reviews	Set future review dates & sign/comment upon completion	