

RISK ASSESSMENT – Mass Testing for COVID-19 in Schools

School: St Antony's Roman Catholic School	Assessment date: 8 th January 2021
Activity covered by this assessment: Mass Testing for Covid-19	Date reviewed:
Persons involved in the assessment: Staff, Pupils, Volunteers	Manager's signature:

From January 2021, staff at school will be routinely tested for covid-19 and both staff and pupils will be offered daily tests if they have been identified as a close contact of a positive case so that they can stay in school, rather than isolate.

At all times, the school will refer to, and follow the guidance in [“Covid-19 National Testing Programme: Schools and Colleges Handbook”](#)

HAZARD	PERSONS AT RISK (eg. staff, visitors, pregnant workers, young persons)	ACTION ALREADY TAKEN TO REDUCE THE RISKS (Control measures)	FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED (If existing controls are inadequate)	BY WHO AND WHEN
Testing Room	Staff, Pupils, Volunteers	<p>There will be a dedicated testing site in school (Isolation Room). The room where testing takes place will be well ventilated, well lit and have a non-porous floor surface i.e., there will be no carpets or parquet floors.</p> <p>The room will have a one-way direction of travel in place where possible. Alternatively, there will be strict social distancing measures to allow entry and exit through one door.</p> <p>The room will be large enough to allow the key layout requirements referred to in the Schools and Colleges</p>		

		<p>Handbook and has to be big enough to contain a registration desk, swabbing bay (which has to have its own processing desk) and a recording desk. Each area will be clearly demarcated. People being tested are not allowed to enter the processing area.</p> <p>Each 'swabbing' and 'processing' desk will have clinical waste receptacles to dispose of PPE, swabs and cartridges/devices.</p> <p>Strict social distancing between the various areas in the testing room will be maintained.</p>		
Staffing	Staff, Pupils, Volunteers	<p>The requirements for staffing the testing site will follow those in the Schools and Colleges Handbook.</p> <p>Staff may be chosen from existing school staff, or from the wider community. The team leader overseeing the day-to-day workforce management, will be DBS checked in line with the school's safeguarding policy.</p> <p>Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV) staff should currently not be attending the workplace and therefore will not be involved in the mass testing arrangements.</p> <p>Clinically Vulnerable (CV) staff should also be excluded from taking on a role in the testing process. Individual risk assessments for CEV and CV staff should be revised to reflect the fact that this activity is happening on site and to ensure that all vulnerable staff are, so far as is practical, kept away from the testing area.</p> <p>All staff involved in the testing process, must undertake</p>		

		training as described in the Schools and Colleges Handbook and records kept.		
PPE	Staff, Pupils, Volunteers	<p>All staff working in the testing site will be provided with the following PPE:</p> <p>Apron, fluid resistant surgical mask, visor and gloves.</p> <p>The majority of the PPE will be used sessionally, however gloves will be changed by those staff acting as 'Processor' between each test subject. The 'Test Assistant' will change their gloves if there is a need to intervene in the swabbing process.</p> <p>All persons being tested will wear a mask until they remove it to undergo the actual testing process, after which they will replace the mask.</p>		
Provision of hand-washing / hand-hygiene facilities	Staff, Pupils, Volunteers	<p>Hand sanitizers will be available at the entry and exit doors to the room and adjacent to the swabbing desks along with appropriate signage.</p> <p>Prior to entering, and when leaving the testing room, all persons will sanitize their hands.</p> <p>Staff members acting as 'Processor' will sanitize their hands following each test subject.</p>		

Positive result	Staff, Pupils, Volunteers	<p>Any person showing a positive result with the Lateral Flow Test will be required to undertake a confirmatory PCR test.</p> <p>Pupils will be isolated in a suitable room, with supervision if required, until they are collected by a parent or guardian. The supervising staff member will wear PPE as described in the schools Covid-19 Risk Assessment.</p> <p>Staff will be sent home immediately.</p> <p>The school's Covid Risk Assessment control measures will be followed for persons showing Covid-19 symptoms.</p>		
Waste Disposal	Staff, Pupils, Volunteers	<p>Pre-test packaging and general waste will be disposed of as general waste using the existing municipal waste route</p> <p>Swabs and cartridges/devices should be disposed of as clinical waste (usually yellow bag) and appropriate arrangements made for their collection and disposal.</p> <p>Used PPE should be disposed of as offensive waste (usually tiger - yellow and black striped – bag)</p> <p><i>Contact your hygiene/waste collection provider for further information.</i></p>		

<p>Cleaning</p>	<p>Staff, Pupils, Volunteers</p>	<p>Cleaning staff will wear PPE as detailed in the PPE section above.</p> <p>They will only enter sampling areas when the activity is no longer being conducted or if required due to a spillage.</p> <p>In case of a spillage when they need to enter an active test area, cleaners should ensure that they avoid any contact within 2 metres and change their PPE after cleaning.</p> <p>Cleaning will follow public health guidelines and cleaning solutions will contain one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A combined detergent and disinfectant at a dilution of 1000 parts per million (ppm) available chlorine (ppm av.cl) • A household detergent followed by disinfection (1000 ppm av.cl). Follow manufacturer's instructions for dilution, application and contract times for all detergents and disinfectants • If an alternative disinfectant is used within the organisation ensure that it is effective against enveloped viruses <p>Frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned either at the end of each session, or as a minimum twice a day including before or after the working day.</p> <p>Where spillages (including bodily fluid spillages) have occurred, areas should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.</p>		
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Employers and Public Liability Insurance	Staff, Pupils, Volunteers	<p>Employers' and Public Liability Insurance Policies are in place that indemnify you in respect of your legal liability arising from the asymptomatic testing for schools programme.</p> <p>This will be subject to a suitable and sufficient risk assessment being in place with arrangements implemented to meet the requirements of relevant Health and Safety and COVID Government Guidance.</p> <p><i>NB: Trafford Council insurers have confirmed that the Employers' and Public Liability policies will indemnify you in respect of your legal liability arising from the asymptomatic testing for schools programme subject to the above and the usual policy terms, conditions and exclusions.</i></p> <p><i>Schools with other insurers may wish to contact them for further guidance.</i></p>		
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