

## School Re-Opening Risk Assessment

### Executive Summary\*

\*This document *summarises* a range of key issues considered by SLT regarding the decision to fully re-open to students from Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September onwards. It is not a substitute for the detailed risk assessment regarding the specific aspects of managing safely students and staff on site. It is a live document, subject to review and update weekly and more frequently if needed and is informed by government guidance and information updates about Covid-19 infection rates in the BCP locality.

External Factors	Notes/Actions
<p><b>Nationally:</b>                      The UK government inform us the 5 tests are met.                      The DfE inform us it is safe to re-open schools for all students.                      The DfE have provided clear guidance regarding protective measures in schools which we have applied.                      The DfE have provided clear guidance about reasons for re-opening, the numbers of students, and timings, which we have applied.</p> <p><b>Locally:</b>                      Regular updates via BCP indicate that at the time of decision-making, Covid-19 cases in the BCP area are much lower than the national average, are declining, and the risk of spike is rated LOW at present.                      The R factor has not risen (beyond possible statistical variation) in the SW region as a whole. Guidance from the RSC- SW office about the significance of this for our locality has been considered by SLT as recently as 27<sup>th</sup> August.</p> <p>See below this table for specific information</p>	<p>Phased re-opening planned with staggered start days for different year groups.</p> <p>See Risk Assessment portfolio. Link to guidance included.</p> <p>SLT will consider any negative change in the local situation and suspend or alter the on-site provision if appropriate.</p> <p>PHE heat-maps of infection rates have been studied this week and these are considered to confirm the LOW risk assessment for BCP locality.                      Risk Assessment includes monitoring individual cases and specific sets of actions in response to a related case or a case in school.</p>
<p><b>Internal Factors</b>                      Parents are keen for the school to re-open fully.                      Staff confidence-level in educational plans is considered HIGH, based on feedback and engagement by staff.                      Staff confidence-level in health &amp; safety arrangements is considered HIGH, based on feedback and engagement by staff.                      On-site risk assessments (RA) and risk management (RM) routines are aligned to BCP recommendations                      Compliance with them: staff are receiving the portfolio of RAs in advance, along with an executive summary.                      Clear and effective H&amp;S routines are in place for students relating to range of issues such as face masks, one-way system, seating plans, coughing/sneezing, hand hygiene</p> <p>Student compliance with the routines: there is risk that a minority of students may not understand or may ignore them.</p>	<p><b>Notes/Actions</b>                      Re-opening is phased in order to ease students and staff into the necessary routines.                      Ongoing dialogue between SLT, middle leaders, our teaching union rep, and other key staff is strongly embedded in SLT decision-making.                      H&amp;S are dynamic, subject to continuous review and refinement.</p> <p>RAs are dynamic, subject to continuous review and refinement.                      Routines have been tested in action before re-opening as far as practicable.</p> <p>Routines/expectations published in advance to students. Audio-visual guides to key aspects for students posted to the website site, to support student compliance with the H&amp;S routines.                      Specific adaptations to the Behaviour Management Policy for Covid-related behaviour                      See full RA document</p>

<p>As part of the overall portfolio of RA/RM materials specific RM routines are in place for situations carrying a higher degree of risk including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Toilet visits</li> <li>• First aid situations</li> <li>• If a student feels unwell</li> <li>• Arrival at and departure from school</li> <li>• Evacuation/fire alarm</li> <li>• Queueing/catering</li> <li>• Corridors</li> <li>• Offices/meeting rooms</li> <li>• Visitors</li> <li>• If Covid case in a student, staff member or their family is confirmed</li> </ul> <p>Oversight; the risk assessments and education plan for this half-term including re-opening have been audited against the National Education Union checklist, shared with and discussed with our NEU school rep.</p> <p>Oversight: as per the NGA guidance to Governing Bodies this risk assessment, the portfolio of risk assessments and the wider planning for education this half-term including the specific approach to full re-opening, have been shared with the GB for scrutiny.</p> <p>Oversight: as per the DfE guidance this document, plus the portfolio for RA/RMs and the education action plan will be published in the Covid-19 section of our website following the Governors Meeting.</p>	<p>See website from 2/9/2020</p>
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**Overall picture in Dorset (provided by Public Health Dorset, 27<sup>th</sup> August 2020)**

Dorset and Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP) Councils are experiencing low numbers of cases compared with many other areas in England. The current risk of a second peak is currently considered to be low.

**Cases**

The table below shows the number of confirmed new positive cases of COVID-19 in the BCP Council and Dorset Council areas in the latest 7-day period.

The number of coronavirus cases in the Dorset and BCP Council areas		
Time period	Cases in BCP Council area	Cases in Dorset Council area
19 - 25 Aug 20	9	12
12 - 18 Aug 20	17	6
5 - 11 Aug 20	10	11
28 Jul - 3 Aug 20	2	6

**Case rates**

The table below shows the case rates per 100,000 of the population for the BCP Council and Dorset Council areas, the South West region and England in the latest 7-day period.

Case rates for BCP Council, Dorset Council, South West and England				
Time period	BCP Council	Dorset Council	South West	England
15 - 21 Aug 20	4.3	3.2	6.7	11.3
8 - 14 Aug 20	4.0	3.2	4.9	12.2
5 - 11 Aug 20	2.5	2.9	5	7.8
24 - 30 Jul 20	1.8	1.3	4.5	9

**Comment:**

Whilst cases in the BCP area are lower than the regional and national trends, which is a positive indicator regarding the safety of re-opening, it is worth noting that the trend has been broadly upwards during August compared to the end of June and July. This suggests that the use of face masks in corridors and certain one-to-one situations is prudent, given the limitations the school faces in terms of strict zoning of year groups away from each other.

Taking into account the control measures described in the Full Risk Assessment document, the Senior Leadership Team therefore intend to press ahead with full re-opening to all year groups starting on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September with Year 7 and 12, then adding Years 8 to 11 on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September (but without Year 12 or 13 in school), then finally adding Year 12 and 13 on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September.

The first formal review point is scheduled during **w/b 28<sup>th</sup> September**.

The second formal review point is scheduled during **w/b 19<sup>th</sup> October**.

The third formal review point is scheduled during **w/b 23<sup>rd</sup> November**.

We can be reasonably assured that by the end of the November the situation will not be the same as it is now, so at this point the timing of further review points is merely speculation.

*Clearly, this schedule is subject to potential alteration.*

Patrick Earnshaw  
Headteacher  
1.9.2020