



**SAINT PIUS X CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
SEPTEMBER OPENING
COVID-19 RISK ASSESSMENT**

The measures listed are based on current (as at 15th July 2020) government guidance:

› [Guidance for full opening: schools](#)

Some of the points which have helped inform the risk assessment.

All pupils in all year groups will return to school full-time from the beginning of the autumn term. Staff will be expected back with measures in place to mitigate the risks to those in vulnerable categories. People who live with those who are clinically extremely vulnerable or clinically vulnerable can attend the workplace.

Schools will be asked to minimise the number of contacts that a pupil has during the school day.

The prevalence of COVID-19 has decreased, the NHS Test and Trace system is up and running and it is clear what measures need to be in place to create safer environments within schools.

The Office of National Statistics analysis on COVID-19 related deaths linked to occupations suggests that staff in educational settings tend not to be at any greater risk than many other occupations. There is no evidence that children transmit the disease any more than adults. The risk to children themselves of becoming severely ill from COVID-19 is very low.

Separating groups and maintaining social distancing are not 'all-or-nothing' options and will still bring benefits if implemented partially. All teachers and other staff can operate across different classes and year groups to facilitate the delivery of the school timetable. This is particularly important for secondary schools. Where staff do move they should try to keep their distance from pupils and other staff as much as they can, ideally 2m from other adults. In particular they should avoid close face to face contact and minimise time spent within 1m. Where pupils need close contact care their support should be provided as normal.

All schools are encouraged to return to their usual uniform policies in the autumn term. Uniforms do not need to be cleaned any more often than usual or need different cleaning methods.

Contact sports should not take place. Outdoor sports should be prioritised and large indoor spaces used where it is not, maximising distancing between pupils and paying scrupulous attention to cleaning and hygiene. This is particularly important in a sports setting because of the way in which people breathe during exercise. Activities such as active miles, making break times and lessons active and encouraging active travel help enable pupils to be physically active while encouraging physical distancing.

For state-funded schools, routine Ofsted inspections will remain suspended for the autumn term. However, during the autumn term, inspectors will visit a sample of schools to discuss how they are managing the return to education of all their pupils.

Guidance on quarantine periods for library materials

Please note guidance from the COVID-19 Guidance Cell of Public Health England's National Infection Service, as advised to CILIP and DCMS:

- The risk from books covered in a plastic cover handled by someone who is a possible COVID-19 case is negligible after 72 hours.
- The risk from books with a cardboard/paper cover is negligible after 24 hours.

We note that each individual library and information service has developed their own policies and protocols for safe book handling, including leaving books in 'quarantine' for 72 hours before handling.

› [Actions for education settings to prepare for wider opening](#)

› [Guidance for secondary school provision](#)

› [Guidance for secondary school provision](#)

› [Safe working in education settings](#)

	<p>Close contact means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct close contact means face-to-face contact with an infected person for any length of time, within 1 metre, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ being coughed on, ○ a face-to-face conversation, or ○ unprotected physical contact (skin-to-skin) • Proximity contacts – extended close contact (within 1 to 2 metres for more than 15 minutes) with an infected person • Travelling in a small car with an infected person <p>If there are 2 or more confirmed cases within 14 days, or an overall rise in sickness absence where coronavirus is suspected, the school will work with the local health protection team to decide if additional action is needed. Any advice given by the team will be followed.</p>		
HAZARD 2 Contact with coronavirus when getting to and from school	<p>Staff/students will be reminded of the guidance re walking or cycling to school where possible. For anyone who needs to take public transport, they'll be referred to government guidance.</p> <p>If home to school transport is running, risk assessments will be requested from the providers to ensure transport is adhering to government guidance.</p> <p>Students arriving at/leaving school will be allocated particular entrances/exits which will be supervised by staff to remind about social distancing.</p> <p>Anyone wearing non-disposable face coverings when arriving to school will be expected to bring a plastic bag (with their name on) to keep these in during the school day. Disposable masks must be removed before entering school and placed in a biohazard bag on arrival. Students will be reminded to wash their hands after disposing of their mask.</p>	DIX/YAT	Notices at entrances/exits. Risk assessment from bus company. Staff duty rota.
HAZARD 3 Spreading infection due to touch, sneezes and coughs	<p>Everyone in school will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clean their hands on arrival, before and after eating, after sneezing or coughing and on leaving the premises either by washing their hands with soap and water for 20 seconds and drying thoroughly using NHS guidelines, or using alcohol-based hand sanitiser to cover all parts of their hands. Paper towels will be provided and hand dryers put out of use. • use a tissue or elbow to catch coughs or sneezes, and be reminded not to touch their mouth, eyes and nose by posters around school. <p>Supplies of soap, hand sanitiser and disposable paper towels and tissues will be topped up regularly and monitored to ensure adequate supplies.</p> <p>Biohazard bags will be provided in classrooms and other areas of school for the disposal of tissues and wipes and sealed and disposed of at the end of each day.</p>	SMI GRA/TAY GRA/TAY	Staff rota Checklist
HAZARD 4 Spreading infection through	<p>Cleaning staff will clean frequently touched surfaces using standard cleaning products (e.g. disinfectant and detergent), each day for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • classroom desks, tables and other furniture • door and window handles 	GRA/TAY	Checklist for daily monitoring of cleaning.

<p>contact with coronavirus on surfaces</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • light switches • reception desks • telephones (staff will be reminded to wipe phones before use). <p>To aid the maintenance of clean areas staff must keep all teaching items in a box and place in a designated spot in the room. Staff are asked to bring in their own laptops to use to avoid using computers others may have also used. However, if this is not possible for some reason staff must wipe the keyboard and mouse of any computer they use before and after use with the provided wipes.</p> <p>Classrooms, corridors, toilets and other areas of the school that are used by students will be cleaned thoroughly at the end of the day. Toilets will also be checked and cleaned every two hours.</p> <p>Shared rooms, such as halls and dining areas, will be cleaned after use.</p> <p>School cleaning supplies (e.g. hand sanitiser) will be topped up regularly and monitored to ensure adequate supplies.</p> <p>Areas of the school not in use will be shut off to make cleaning more manageable. Fingerprint scanners in the dining room will be out of use.</p> <p>Teachers, DSAs and TAs will wash/sanitise their hands and surfaces before and after handling students' books.</p> <p>Students will be allowed to wear PE kit for the full day if physical activity is timetabled. The changing space in the PE areas has been assessed to be suitable to enable students to change at the start and end of lessons.</p> <p>The number of shared resources will be limited as much as possible and cleaned between different users.</p>	<p>All staff</p> <p>GRA/TAY</p> <p>TAY GRA/TAY</p> <p>PE staff Technology staff Other staff</p>	
<p>HAZARD 5 Spreading infection due to excessive contact and mixing between students and staff in classrooms and other areas</p>	<p>The school day will continue to run from 9-1.30pm with 5 minute breaks at the end of each hour. Lunchtime will be 30 minutes. Vulnerable children or children of critical workers can continue to attend full-time.</p> <p>Staff must use their fob to sign in.</p> <p>The importance of following the new 'rules' will be stressed to students and parents/carers. Any behaviour issues specifically related to potential spreading of infection e.g. deliberate coughing at another person, or students pretending to have symptoms, will be dealt with under the extreme level of the behaviour sanctions ladder. Students will be reminded verbally about the rules on social distancing throughout the day.</p> <p>The Sarto building will mainly be used for Y10 students due to the size of classrooms and circulation areas.</p> <p>Students will be taught in year group 'bubbles' in the following areas of school.</p> <p>Y7 – Sarto, Y8/9 – R corridor and G classrooms, Y10 – C corridor, Y11 – science corridor. Students can move within these areas to change groups but will only move out of these area to be taught in PE and technology (including art). Rooms will be accessed directly from outside through one of three pre-determined entrances having walked around outside the school building to arrive at Sarto. Students will be informed in advance of which entrance to use in order to enter and leave the building. These will be supervised by staff to ensure students adhere to social distancing as much as possible. Movement around the school site will be kept to a minimum.</p> <p>Students will be organised into groups of no more than 12 students. Students will be in those groups for the full day. Seats and desks will be arranged 2m apart.</p>	<p>LT All staff</p> <p>SMI/BRO GRA/TAY BRO</p>	<p>Information to parents. Powerpoint for students.</p> <p>Staff rota.</p> <p>Staff duty rota.</p>

	<p>Each student will have a labelled work space and be provided with their own stationery set which will remain in school. Hand sanitiser will be available on each desk. Hand sanitiser will be available in the classroom but students will be asked to supply their own where possible. Students will sit in a seating plan each lesson. Wipes will be available on teachers' desks. Tissues will be available but staff and students will also be encouraged to provide their own supply.</p> <p>Y7-9 students will continue to use the library and C4 to continue with the online work set by staff. Each student will have their own computer.</p> <p>As far as possible, the same staff will be assigned to the same group each day. Teachers will move to classrooms where students are based unless agreed to use specialist areas on occasion. except for PE and technology when students will be allowed to move to those areas.</p> <p>Student toilets will be designated for each group of students. Toilet areas will be monitored by a member of staff as part of the a rota to ensure social distancing.</p> <p>Students will be separated into three areas for lunchtimes – hot meals in the dining room, cold meals and sandwiches in the main hall and some outdoor eating at the picnic tables. Each year group will have a classroom allocated to eat packed lunches. The pod will not be available. Students will be asked in advance for lunch choice. Each area will be supervised by staff to ensure students adhere to social distancing. Staff will eat in the same areas. Each area will be cleaned after use. Year groups will have break and lunch times staggered to avoid too many students being in one place at the same time.</p> <p>The staffroom will be unavailable due to the amount of soft furnishings and narrow circulation areas. Be restricted to no more than 12 staff at any time. A hot water urn will be available at the back of the main hall with disposable cups for staff wishing to make a hot drink. The library will be available as an additional space for staff to have a break. An urn will be set up so staff can make hot drinks. Staff are asked to provide their own mugs and to ensure they are cleaned after use.</p> <p>Staff toilets will be limited to one person at any time.</p> <p>Information regarding spaces where staff can work during PPA/LM time will be provided in September.</p> <p>Staff briefings will be via email.</p>	GRA	Tape off staffroom. Urn in main hall. Toilet sign.
HAZARD 6 Spreading infection due to the school environment	<p><u>Checks to the premises</u> will continue to be done as usual to make sure the school continues to be up to health and safety standards.</p> <p>Fire, first aid and emergency procedures will be reviewed to make sure they can still be followed with limited staff and changes to how the school space is being used.</p> <p>Areas in use will be well ventilated by opening windows. Doors will be propped open, where fire safety and safeguarding wouldn't be compromised. Air conditioning units must not be used.</p> <p>Water fountains will be unavailable. Students and staff will be told to bring their own supply of water.</p> <p>Updated risk assessments will be requested from Chartwell's Catering Company.</p>	GRA/TAY SMI/LT GRA/TAY GRA	
HAZARD 7 Spreading infection due	Where possible, all meetings will be conducted by telephone or using video conferencing. Where this isn't possible, essential meetings will be conducted outside, or in a room large enough to allow for social distancing.	GRA/LT	

to excessive contact and mixing in meetings	Staff and contractors not working with students Any visitors will be asked to maintain 2m distances from each other and from students and staff.		
HAZARD 8 Individuals vulnerable to serious infection coming into school	<p>The school will continue to follow any shielding guidance in place to decide who should come into school. If the guidance is paused, all staff and pupils are expected to come into school, apart from staff who can continue to work from home (e.g. some admin staff). Staff who are clinically vulnerable or clinically extremely vulnerable and coming into school will be placed in the safest possible on-site roles where it's possible to maintain social distancing. Individual risk assessments will be in place where necessary.</p> <p>For everyone who could come into school:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If they're clinically extremely vulnerable (as defined here), they will continue to learn or work from home • If they're clinically vulnerable (as defined here) – parents should follow medical advice if their child is in this category, and staff in this category will continue to work from home wherever possible. If these staff members cannot work from home, they will be given a role that allows them to be kept 2m away from others wherever possible. <p>If they live with someone who's clinically extremely vulnerable, they will only attend if stringent social distancing can be adhered to and, in the case of children, they're able to understand and follow those instructions.</p>	SMI/GRA	List of who is unavailable and why.
HAZARD 9 Curriculum disruption	<p>The curriculum will continue as closely as possible to 'normal'. Only the specialist areas of PE and technology/art will be used outside of the classroom bases. Assemblies will not take place due to the hall being required for breaks and lunchtimes. All classrooms will have desks positioned so students face forwards and side by side. Teachers will typically teach from the front maintaining a distance of 2m where practicable. Lessons that involve singing, chanting, shouting or playing instruments (particularly wind or brass instruments) will be limited to no more than 15 students and will take place outside wherever possible (if taking place inside, the space will be well ventilated). Instruments won't be shared. Singing or instrument playing won't take place in any larger groups such as choirs. For physical activity, contact sports will be avoided. Outdoor sports will be prioritised where possible, or large indoor spaces used where it is not. Distance between pupils will be maximised as much as possible. Staff can work across different groups in order to deliver the school timetable, but they will keep their distance from students and other staff as much as they can (ideally 2 metres apart). This won't always be possible, but close face-to-face contact will be avoided, and time spent within 1 metre will be minimised. Any students with complex needs or who need close contact care will have the same support as normal as distancing isn't possible here. Staff will be rigorous about handwashing and respiratory hygiene. Educational visits will not take place for at least the first term.</p>	SMI/LT	

	Online learning will continue to be developed to ensure students can continue to study from home and be supported by staff if there is a need to lockdown or if staff illness creates the need to have a rota system of year groups attending. In this instance Y11 and Y7 students will be prioritised for attendance.		
HAZARD 10 Impacted staff wellbeing	Information re mental health services available for support will continue to be provided to staff by email and the website/social media. Staff shielding will be kept informed of school news via emails and wellbeing checks. Rotas will be in place to minimise the amount of time staff are required in school but with sufficient staff to provide sufficient support for Y10 students and vulnerable/key workers children and to enable cover in case of emergencies.	GRA/DIX SMI	Rota.
HAZARD 11 Impacted student wellbeing	Welcome and reminder powerpoint delivered to students on return to school stressing the importance of the new 'rules' but also allaying fears. Information re mental health services for students will continue to be provided via the website and posters around school. Individual advice will be provided where appropriate and appointments with the school counsellor made following usual school procedures.	YAT/DIX GRA/DIX	Powerpoint.