



# Covid: Risk Assessment

*Version 3: 31 October 2020*

YMES has conducted a risk assessment relating to face-to-face teaching in schools. The key risks and mandatory mitigation measures are detailed below. With adherence to the mitigation measures, all detailed risks are considered below the reasonable threshold required to proceed with the activity, but all parties must continue to be vigilant to risks and act in order to minimise them. Any further mitigation measures not detailed below should also be considered wherever they are reasonably identified.

<u>Category</u>	<u>Hazard</u>	<u>Mitigation Measures</u>
General transmission	Persons being exposed to the bioaerosol and contracting and spreading covid within the workplace.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Teachers made aware of the covid symptoms:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ A high temperature and/or a new persistent cough and/or a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia).</li></ul></li><li>• Teachers required to confirm they and all members of their household are currently (and for the past 14 days have been) totally free of the above symptoms.</li><li>• Teachers required to confirm that they have not been informed of close contact with a covid-positive person by: national/local Track and Trace, YMES or a school/other workplace.</li></ul>
Travel	Catching/spreading covid whilst travelling to/from a school site.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Teachers encouraged wherever possible to avoid using public transport of any form and instead travel to schools using their own transport (e.g.: car/bike/walk).</li><li>• Schools encouraged to provide adequate car parking facilities and bike racks wherever possible.</li><li>• Schools to provide hand sanitiser at their entrances to ensure that the first thing a teacher does is when they arrive is clean their hands – and likewise the last thing they do before leaving.</li></ul>

Teaching environment	An unsuitable teaching environment leading to increased risk of covid transmission.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teaching must only be undertaken in rooms where 2m distancing is possible at all times.</li> <li>• Teaching rooms should have good ventilation wherever possible – teachers may consider opening windows wherever possible.</li> <li>• Teachers and pupils should be positioned side by side rather than facing each other wherever possible.</li> </ul>
Music specific	The increased risk of covid transmission as a result of musical activity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wind and brass instruments / mouthpieces must not be shared under any circumstances.</li> <li>• Wind and brass instruments designated as ‘communal’ (ie not assigned to any particular individual) must not be used under any circumstances.</li> <li>• Teachers must follow the Code of Practice relating to non-blown instruments which are typically shared – such as classroom percussion and pianos.</li> <li>• Singing, wind and brass playing may not take place in groups of more than 15 people unless prior permission gained from the YMES Director.</li> <li>• Social distancing must be adhered to in all music lessons. In sessions which involve singing, wind or brass playing (as permitted); an increased distance of 3m should be adhered to wherever possible and is mandatory wherever persons are facing each other rather than side by side.</li> <li>• Prior permission must be gained from the YMES Director in respect of our teachers or our pupils taking part in any type of performance that features an audience – be that a public performance, or an internal school performance.</li> </ul>
Non-teaching time	Covid being spread during unnecessary mingling with school staff.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teachers to avoid spending any significantly long non-teaching / break times in communal school staff rooms.</li> <li>• Teachers advised not to use school crockery and instead to take their own flasks / bottles of water.</li> </ul>
Good communication	The risk that, as a result of poor communication, individuals to not adhere to the required procedures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schools and YMES central office will share their risk assessments, policies and any other documentation with each other prior to a return to face-to-face teaching.</li> <li>• YMES central office will share both sets of documents with the teacher. Teachers must adhere to both the YMES documents and the school documents.</li> <li>• Schools, YMES central office, and YMES teachers will keep each other informed in a timely fashion if there are any changes to policy, or if there is</li> </ul>

		any incident of suspected or known transmission on the premises, or if the teacher becomes symptomatic.
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