



# SOCIALDISTANCING COVID-19 POLICY

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**Our Commitment to Pupils' Safety and Well-being**

At Riversides School we respect and value all children. We are committed to providing a safe and secure environment where all pupils feel able to access education. We believe every pupil should be able to participate in all school activities in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from harm. This is the responsibility of every adult employed by, or invited to deliver services, at Riversides School. We recognise our responsibility to safeguard all who access school and promote the welfare of all our pupils by protecting them from physical, sexual and emotional abuse, neglect and bullying.

**Introduction:**

Riversides School is currently operating a comprehensive virtual learning environment, where teachers are providing lessons and tutorials to pupils from home. They are able to provide subject specialist support from home to ensure your child is making progress. This has been put in place to help support the national guidelines which remain in place: stay at home, protect the NHS and save lives. The risk of contracting and spreading COVID-19 are significant and the safety and well-being of all our pupils' remains our overwhelming priority.

The government are asking schools, local authorities and families to work together to establish whether a child's needs can be met safely at home during this time. Many children and young people with an Education, Health and Care plan can remain safely at home, and where this is the case, it may be more appropriate for them to do so to ensure the safety and well-being of the wider community. This policy document has been written to explain the social distancing measures and procedures Riversides School will be adhering to for the families who

feel pupils are not safe at home. Riversides School is adhering to the up-to-date government social distancing guidelines, placing the pupils' safety and well-being at the core. This document should be used alongside the individual pupil risk assessments to help support the identification of pupils who need to be attending school.

This document has been written in conjunction with the following government guidelines:

'Coronavirus (COVID-19): Implementing social distancing in education and childcare settings' found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-social-distancing-in-education-and-childcare-settings/coronaviruscovid-19-implementing-social-distancing-in-education-and-childcare-settings>.

'Supporting vulnerable children and young people during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak' found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-vulnerable-children-and-young-people/coronavirus-covid-19-guidanceon-vulnerable-children-and-young-people>.

The following points are important to note:

- children are likely to become infected with coronavirus (COVID-19) at roughly the same rate as adults, but the infection is usually mild.
- the most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are a new, continuous cough or a high temperature (over 37.8 degrees).
- for the vast majority of children and staff, coronavirus (COVID-19) will not cause serious illness.

Children and young people with an EHC plan in all health categories, including the most vulnerable, may continue to attend education or a childcare setting as usual if their local authority risk assessment has determined this is appropriate, taking on board the views of their parents and the school.

### **The School Day**

The school day will run from 9am – 1pm. It will consist of several different activities based within a limited number of classrooms. Pupils will have access to outside spaces at regular intervals throughout the day.

### **Behaviour Expectations**

All pupils attending school are expected to follow the normal expectations of behaviour, and the expectations set out in this social distancing policy. Most importantly, to ensure the safety and well-being of all pupils and staff, pupils must listen and follow staff instructions at all times. By sending pupils into school, pupils have agreed to follow all aspects of this policy. Failure to adhere to the expectations set out in this policy, and/or any behaviour that places themselves or others at risk may result in the pupil being sent home immediately. The safety and well-being of all pupils and staff is the most important aspect of this policy. By sending your child into school, parents are agreeing to support the school to ensure pupils adhere to all the social distancing measures outlined in this policy that have been designed to ensure the safety and well-being of everyone at school. By sending your child into school, parents are also recognising the risks associated with social gatherings and by doing so, are acknowledging that the school environment cannot be a 100% risk free environment. There are several factors outside of the control of the staff team that may place your child at risk of contracting COVID-19. Any decisions made by the school will be taken to keep children and staff safe.

## **Section 1: Hygiene & Health**

### Health

- Pupils must not enter the school setting if they are displaying any of the COVID-19 symptoms.
- Pupils will be encouraged not to touch their faces, to use a tissue or elbow to cough or sneeze and use bins for tissue waste.

### Handwashing

- The school has got several hand sanitiser stations. Pupils will be expected to use the hand sanitiser or wash their hands using anti-bacterial soap in the following situations:

- a) On entry and exit of the school.
- b) On entry and exit into every classroom.
- c) When they blow their nose, use the toilet, cough or sneeze, handle or eat food.
- d) After using the toilet.

## **Section 2: Social Distancing**

- The school will be divided into four zones (three on ground floor, one on upper floor) with designated staff, their own entrance to the building and their own toilet facilities.
- Break and lunch times will be staggered at different times.
- There will be restricted access to the school site.

### **Section 3: Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

- Staff will have the option of using PPE but it is not a statutory requirement.

### **Section 4: Restricted School Access**

- Pupils and staff will have restricted access to the school site.
  - Pupils will have access to a limited number of classrooms only.
- Pupils will enter their learning spaces from the outside door only.
- Pupils will be given clear instruction as to which zone they will be using on entry to the school day.
- Pupils will have a staggered break and lunch time at different times.

### **Section 5: Toilets**

- All pupils will have access to toileting facilities.
- Each of the four zones has its own toilet facilities.
  - All pupils must wash their hands for at least 20 seconds, with anti-bacterial soap, after using the toilets.

## **Section 6: School Lunches, break and lunch times**

- School lunches must be provided by parents/carers. Free School Meals e-vouchers must be used to buy lunches prior to the pupil arriving at school. This is unless the lunch company (Aspens) are prepared to deliver FSM to school.
- All pupils must wash their hands before the handle or eat food.
- Pupils will eat their lunch in the classroom they have been instructed to.

## **Section 7: Education**

- The educational activities provided at school will be a range of academic, social and personal development activities aimed to supporting pupils' wellbeing rather than their academic progress.
  - Pupils will receive a significantly reduced formal education programme as the school will be operating a skeleton staff team.
- Learning activities will be delivered by a range of staff members, including non-subject specialists.
  - Where possible, pupils and parents will be asked to bring in their home learning packs every day so they can continue to work on them during the school day. They will be able to be provided with more work to take home with them after 1pm.
- Pupils will have access to movement breaks at different times of the day, at staggered times.

### **Section 8: Physical Intervention**

- Staff will not be repeatedly physically intervening with pupils. If a pupil becomes deregulated to the point of needing a physical intervention on more than one occasion, parents will be called to come and collect their child immediately.
- Pupils must listen and follow staff instructions at all times. Failure to do so may result in parents being asked to collect their child early.

### **Section 9: Cleaning**

- The school will be cleaned at the end of every day.
- General cleaning will happen during the day to ensure the safety and well-being of pupils and staff.

### **Section 10: Transport**

- Parents must bring their pupils into school or taxis will be provided for students on an individual basis to support social distancing.
- Government guidelines state that schools must consider how to reduce any unnecessary travel.

## **Section 11: Parents**

- By sending your child into school, you are agreeing to adhere to all the social distancing measures outlined in this policy to ensure the safety and wellbeing of everyone at school.
- Talk to your child and explain the social distancing rules in this policy prior to arriving at school.
- Do not gather at the school entrance and model social distancing rules so that your child learns good practice.
- By sending your child into school, you are recognising the risks associated with social gatherings and by doing so, are acknowledging that the school environment cannot be a 100% risk free environment. There are several factors outside of the control of the staff team that may place your child at risk of contracting COVID-19.

## **Appendix 1**

### Behaviour Expectations during Covid – 19

#### Staff, Student and Parent Agreement:

I will work with staff to plan my day so that I can have fun.

Staff will have a variety of activities for me to take part in.

I will speak to the staff when I do not understand something.

I will ask for help when I need it.

I will go to reflection room if I need to.

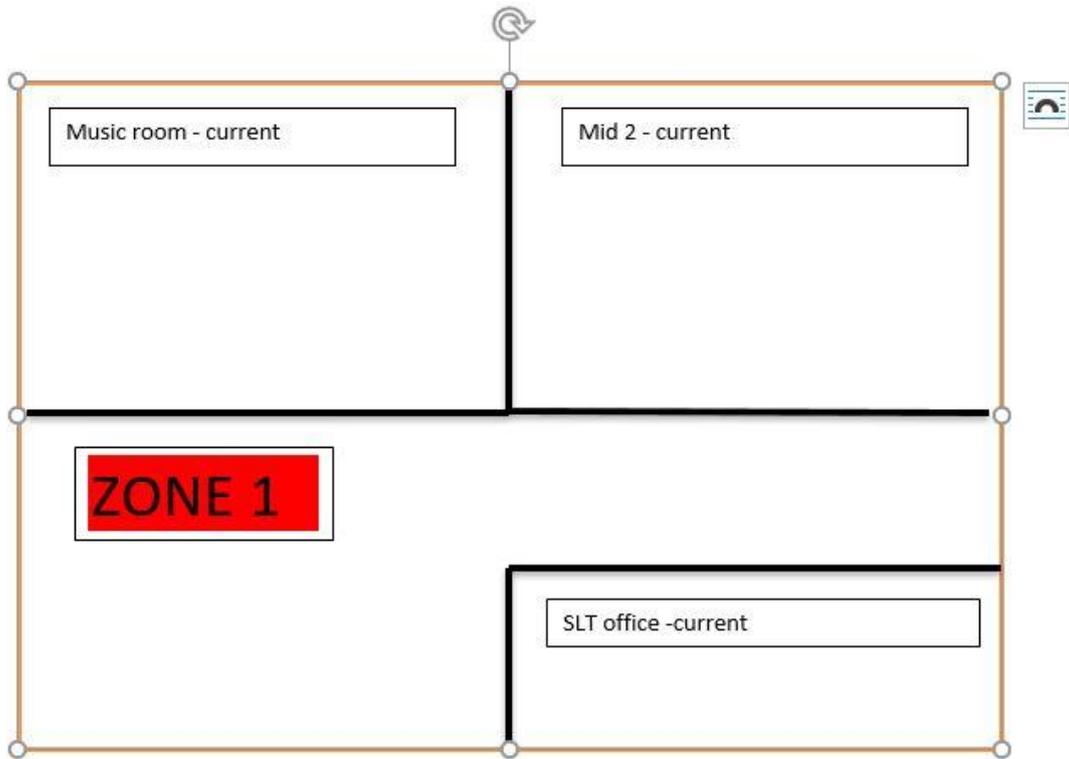
I will wash my hands frequently throughout the day.

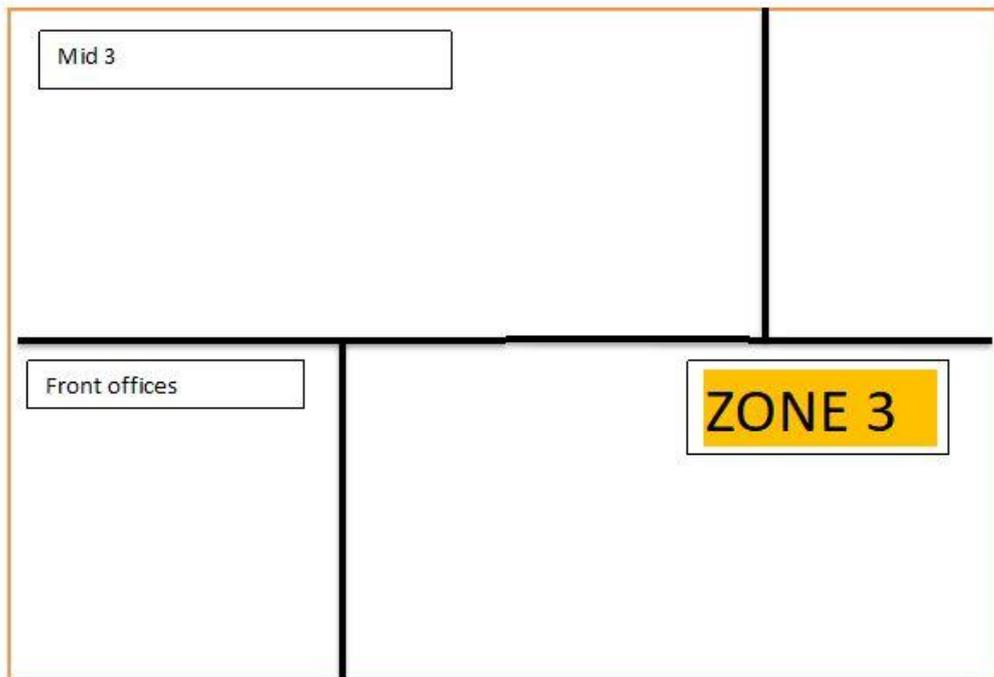
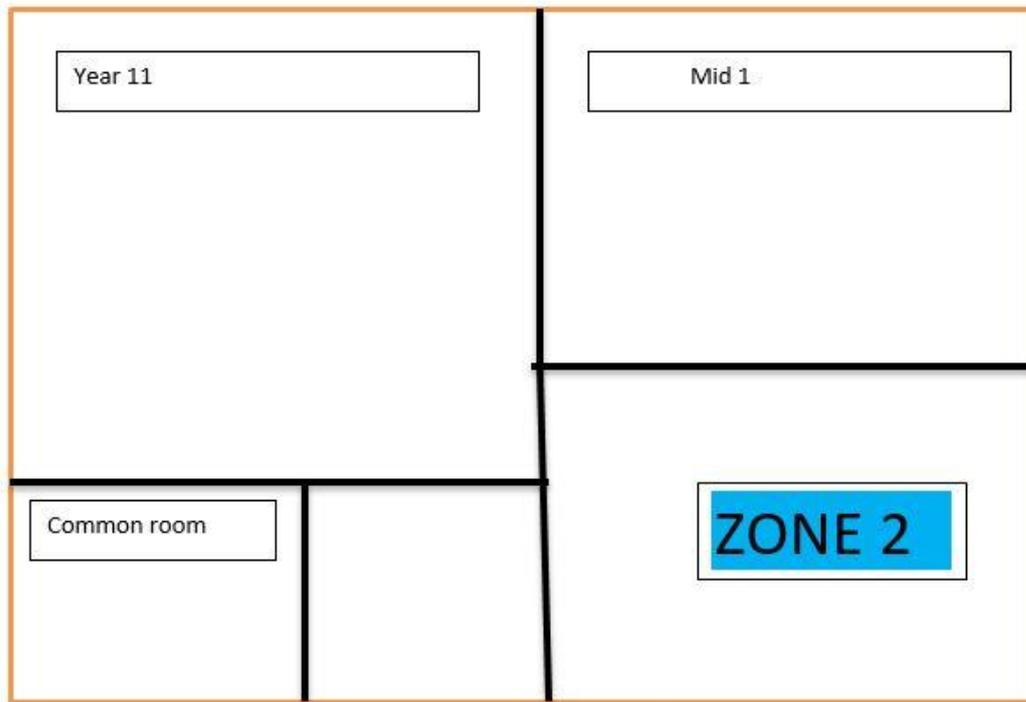
If I become physically aggressive I will be sent home. If I punch, hit, kick or spit I will be sent home.

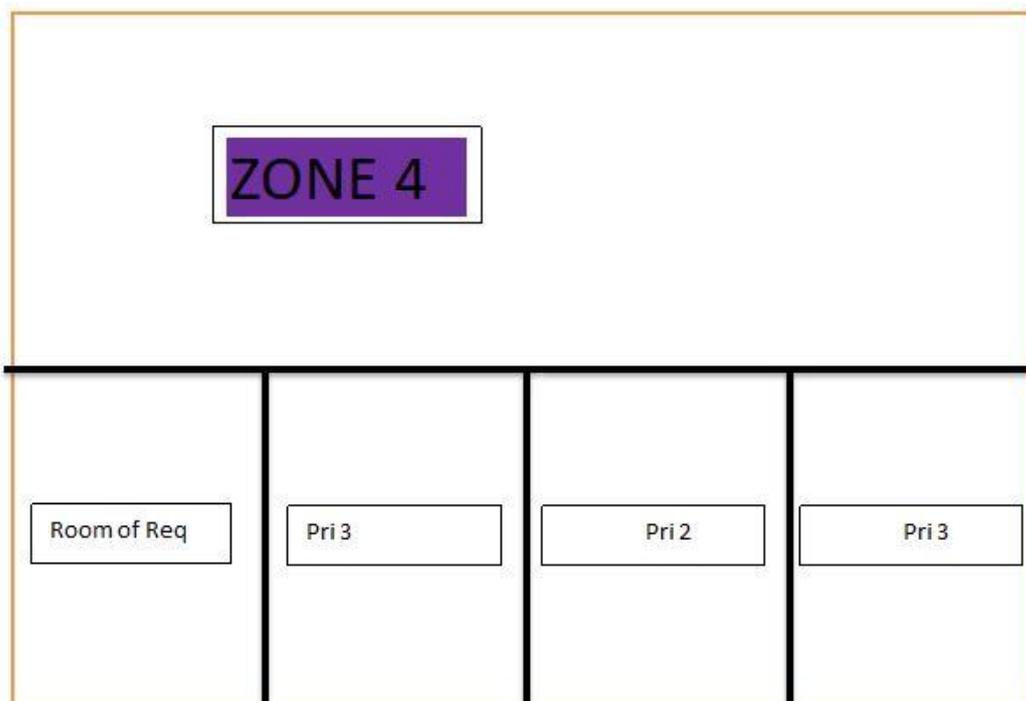
Signed Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed Parent: \_\_\_\_\_ I have read  
and explained this agreement to my child.

## Appendix 2







### **APPENDIX 3**

#### **Addendum for pupils entering/exiting school sites**

Identify the hazards	Who might be harmed ?	What measures are in place to reduce the risk?	What further action is needed to reduce the risk?	Estimate Risk Low Med High
COVID-19	Staff, children	<input type="checkbox"/> UK Government	One-way entry	Low

<p>Welcoming children back on site</p>		<p>guidance being followed          COVID19:implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings (11th May edition)          COVID -19 :guidance for schools and other educational settings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Parents will be sent a copy of this risk assessment and the COVID19 policy</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Pupils will be reminded of handwashing requirements and illness triggers</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Record kept of all attendees – sent to DFE daily and OCC weekly             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Only one parent/guardian / escort will bring their children to school</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>and exit system to be introduced          Ensure staff are have read the risk assessment and sign to ensure they fully understand and comply.</p>	
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>□ Pupils to be dropped off at the school gates on either site</li><li>□ Parents / escorts do not enter the school site</li><li>□ At the school gates there will be an in and out system allowing 2m social Distancing. At RSS pupils met by staff and escorted into building. At TR, staff to meet pupils at gate and take them round the building to the back fire exit to the classroom. Do not go through the rest of the building.</li><li>□ Information posters are present across site on hygiene and social distancing</li><li>□ Children will come to school with a personal</li></ul>		
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		water bottle and pencil case/bag		
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