Updated Risk Assessments to minimise the risk of being exposed to Covid-19

The process involved consultation with all school staff.

Methodology used for hazard identification and control

In line with the requirements of Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005 (section 19) it is the policy of the BoM in Nicker NS to address significant hazards and risks in the workplace, to access the risks to safety, health and welfare and to control these risks as far as is reasonably practicable.

The Board is committed to the ongoing identification of hazards, the assessment of the appropriate risks and the introduction of controls to deal with them. In addition, staff are involved and participate in safety, health and welfare issues within the school and are encouraged to identify and report any potential hazards that may exist and to ensure that a risk assessment is carried out.

This revised Risk Assessment includes all relevant updates and necessary control measures to minimise the risk of staff and others being exposed to Covid-19 and these will be incorporated into the Safety Statement for Nicker NS in line with requirements of section 20 of the 2005 Act.

It is envisaged that additional reviews will be undertaken on a regular basis and in line with Government and public health advice to ensure that all information remains accurate, that controls are appropriate and where necessary risks are reassessed.

A hazard is anything with the potential to cause harm to the safety, health or welfare of staff, students, visitors and contractors – a wet or slippery floor, an unguarded machine, stressful work, a blocked entrance, hazardous chemicals etc. Hazards may be classified as physical, chemical, biological, environmental or human.

A risk is the likelihood that someone will be harmed by a hazard and the severity of that harm.

Control measures:

A control measure is an applied measure that reduces the level of risk. Control measures can be applied at the planning stage, can comprise physical measures, can be management issues and can include training. Good control measures will require a combination of some or all of these.

Control measure principles:

Schedule 3 of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005 lists the Principles of Prevention and the Board of Management undertakes to apply these principles (where practicable) in dealing with all risks within the school:

- Avoidance of risks
- Evaluation of unavoidable risks
- Combating of risks at source
- Adaptation of work to the individual
- Adaptation of workplace to technical progress
- Replacement of dangerous articles, substances or systems of work by safe or less dangerous articles, substances or systems of work
- Priority to collective protective measures over individual protective measures
- Development of an adequate prevention policy which takes account of technology, organisation of work, working conditions, social factors and the influence of factors relating to the working environment
- Appropriate training and instructions to employees.

In minimizing risks, due regard will be given to the most up to date HSE advice available and to the most recent Department of Education Advice, currently Information Note SD 0003/2022.

Who may be affected? Identified Risks	Risk Communication, Education and Training Controls	Risk Rating with controls	Action implementation
Persons currently most at risk of complications of age and of have long-term conditions — i.e. heart lung disease, high pressure, diabetes or cate pregnant women Known effects of coronavirus: A fever (high temperations of the cough of this cankind of cough, not just cough of the cough of	In splan will nignight the measures necessary to protect the health and safety of staff in re-opening and modifying the work arrangements within the school. The staff representative(s) will be properly consulted when developing and implementing the action plan for the prevention and mitigation of Covid-19 within the school and all staff will be informed about the measures being introduced, using specific risk communication and staff engagement approaches. The Board of Management will: Ye Ensure that all staff receive necessary training prior to returning to work Provide posters, information and electronic message boards to increase awareness of Covid-19 among staff and pupils Ye Promote safe individual practices within the school campus Ye Engage with staff in providing feedback on the preventive measures and	Low	Board of Management Principal Staff

Who may be affected? Identified Risks	Hygiene Controls	Risk Rating with controls	Action implementation
 A fever (high temperature of 37.5 degrees Celsius or above) A cough - this can be any kind of cough, not just a dry cough Shortness of breath or breathing difficulties Loss of sense of smell Loss of sense of taste or distortion of sense of taste Death 		Requires monitoring	Board of Managemen Principal Staff Visitors

Who may be affected? Identified Risks	Hygiene Controls	Risk Rating with controls	Action implementation
All staff Pupils Visitors Contractors Public Persons currently deemed most of complications if they cate coronavirus are: • 60 years of age and over • have long-term medical condite. heart disease, lung disease blood pressure, diabetes or can expregnant women Known effects of the coronavirue • A fever (high temperature of degrees Celsius or above) • A cough - this can be any licough, not just a dry cough • Shortness of breath or breadifficulties • Loss of sense of smell • Loss of sense of taste or distosense of taste • Death	Toilet facilities are cleaned regularly Equipment sharing is minimised. Staff are encouraged not to share equipment There is regular cleaning of frequently touched surfaces and that staff are provided with essential cleaning materials to keep their own work areas clean (for example wipes/disinfection products, paper towels and waste bins/bags) All school equipment is sanitised — cleaning programmes to be devised to ensure that shared equipment is cleaned and disinfected between use by different people There is staggered use of canteen/kitchen or other communal facilities Bins are provided for disposal of waste materials (tissues, paper towels, wipes, etc.) and that adequate waste collection arrangements to be put in place to ensure they do not overflow All waste collection points are emptied regularly throughout and at the end of each day. Staff use gloves when removing rubbish bags or handling and disposing of any Rubbish and they wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds afterwards	Requires	Board of Management Principal Staff Visitors

Staff especially cleaning staff Persons currently deemed most at risk of complications if they catch the coronavirus are: • 60 years of age and over • have long-term medical conditions – i.e. heart disease, lung disease, high blood pressure, diabetes or cancer • pregnant women Known effects of the coronavirus: • A fever (high temperature of 37.5 degrees Celsius or above) • A cough - this can be any kind of cough, not just a dry cough • Shortness of breath or breathing difficulties • Loss of sense of taste Loss of sense of taste • I can gestaff will be trained in the new cleaning arrangements for the school attemption to work (e.g. mobile phones) and to avoid leaving them down on communal surfaces or they will need to clean the surface after the personal items that they have bring to work (e.g. mobile phones) and to avoid leaving them down on communal surfaces or they will need to clean the surface after the personal items that they have bring to work (e.g. mobile phones) and to avoid leaving them down on communal surfaces or they will need to clean the surface after the personal items that they have bring to work (e.g. mobile phones) and to avoid leaving them down on communal surfaces (elan ing breaks. Staff advised to clean personal items that they have bring to work (e.g. mobile phones) and to avoid leaving them down on communal surfaces (elan ing arrangements for the school clean ing materials and PPE will be available to allow for increased cleaning and are aware of the need to wash their hands thoroughly with soap and water, both before and after specific to a surfaces or they will be availabl	Who may be affected?	Identified Risks	Cleaning Controls	Risk Rating with controls	Action implementation
•Death		Persons currently deemed most at risk of complications if they catch the coronavirus are: • 60 years of age and over • have long-term medical conditions – i.e. heart disease, lung disease, high blood pressure, diabetes or cancer • pregnant women Known effects of the coronavirus: • A fever (high temperature of 37.5 degrees Celsius or above) • A cough - this can be any kind of cough, not just a dry cough • Shortness of breath or breathing difficulties • Loss of sense of smell • Loss of sense of taste or distortion of sense of taste	 ✓ Staff are responsible for cleaning personal items that have been brought to work and items handled at work or during breaks. Staff advised to clean personal items that they have bring to work (e.g. mobile phones) and to avoid leaving them down on communal surfaces or they will need to clean the surface after the personal item is removed ✓ Cleaning staff will be trained in the new cleaning arrangements for the school ✓ Sufficient cleaning materials and PPE will be available to allow for increased cleaning ✓ Cleaning staff will be instructed to wear gloves when cleaning and are aware of the need to wash their hands thoroughly with soap and water, both before and after wearing gloves ✓ System in place for the disposable of cleaning cloths and used wipes in a rubbish bag Current HSE guidance recommends waste such as cleaning waste, tissues etc. from a person suspected of having Covid-19 should be double bagged and stored in a secure area for 72 hours before being presented for general waste collection ✓ System in place to make sure reusable cleaning equipment including mop heads and non-disposable cloths are clean before re-use ✓ System in place to ensure that equipment such as buckets are emptied and cleaned 	•	•

Who may be affected?	Identified Risks	Use of PPE	Risk Rating with controls	Action implementation
		Controls	With Controls	
Staff	most at risk of complications if they catch the coronavirus are: • 60 years of age and over • have long-term medical conditions – i.e. heart disease, lung disease, high blood pressure, diabetes or cancer • pregnant women Known effects of the coronavirus: • A fever (high temperature of	Where PPE is required by staff, they will be notified accordingly and be provided with the necessary PPE and provided with training and information in the proper use, cleaning, storage and disposal of PPE. PPE needs to be consistently and properly worn when required. In addition, it must be regularly inspected, cleaned, maintained and replaced as necessary. Apart from face coverings/visors/Perspex screens, additional PPE will not be required to be worn, generally, within the school except in accordance with current guidance as outlined in the Roadmap for Opening our Primary and Special Schools. Current general guidance from the HSE in relation to the wearing of face coverings, masks and gloves is available in <i>Information Note SD 0003/2022</i> Face masks/visors may be worn by staff in accordance with government advice.	Requires monitoring	Board of Management Principal Staff

Who may be affected?	Identified Risks	Handling books and other resources during Covid-19 Controls	Risk Rating with controls	Action implementation
Staff (particularly SNAs, school secretaries and school book rental co-ordinator)	Persons currently deemed most at risk of complications if they catch the coronavirus are: • 60 years of age and over • have long-term medical conditions – i.e. heart disease, lung disease, high blood pressure, diabetes or cancer • pregnant women Known effects of the coronavirus: • A fever (high temperature of 37.5 degrees Celsius or above) • A cough - this can be any kind of cough, not just a dry cough • Shortness of breath or breathing difficulties • Loss of sense of smell • Loss of sense of taste or distortion of sense of taste • Death	 Observe good hygiene (hand washing and respiratory etiquette, do not touch your eyes, nose, mouth with unwashed hands, etc.) before and after handling books and other materials returned to the school Follow the agreed school protocols if you are displaying symptoms of Covid-19 Any books or other items (resource packs, computers, etc.) being returned to the school should be quarantined for 72 hours. Quarantining means placing these items in sealed boxes that are 	Requires	Board of Management Principal Staff
	1			

Who may be		Using hand tools or equipment	Risk Rating	
affected?	Identified Risks	Controls	with controls	Action implementatio
All staff	Persons currently deemed most at risk of complications if they catch the coronavirus are: • 60 years of age and over • have long-term medical conditions – i.e. heart disease, lung disease, high blood pressure, diabetes or cancer • pregnant women Known effects of the coronavirus: • A fever (high temperature of	 ✓ Staff must wear the appropriate PPE for the nature of the work that they are undertaking ✓ All tools and equipment must be properly sanitised to prevent cross contamination ✓ Arrangements should be put in place for one individual to use the same tool, equipment and machinery as far as is reasonably practicable ✓ Cleaning material will be available so that all tools can be wiped down with disinfectant between each use ✓ All mobile machinery (including lawnmowers) must be thoroughly cleaned and santisied prior to use 	Requires monitoring	Board of Managemen Principal Staff
	 37.5 degrees Celsius or above) A cough - this can be any kind of cough, not just a dry cough Shortness of breath or breathing difficulties Loss of sense of smell Loss of sense of taste or distortion of sense of taste Death 			

Who may be affected? Identified Risks	Dealing with a suspected case of Covid-19	Risk Rating	Action implementation
directed: identified hisks	Controls	with controls	Action implementation
Staff Pupils Visitors Contractors Persons currently deemed most at risk of complications if they catch the coronavirus are: • 60 years of age and over • have long-term medical conditions – i.e. heart disease, lung disease, high blood pressure, diabetes or cancer • pregnant women Known effects of the coronavirus: • A fever (high temperature of 37.5 degrees Celsius or above) • A cough - this can be any kind of cough, not just a dry cough • Shortness of breath or breathing difficulties • Loss of sense of smell • Loss of sense of taste or distortion of sense of taste • Death	area and the route to the designated area should be easily accessible and as far as is reasonable and practicable, should be accessible by people with disabilities. The possibility of having more than one person displaying signs of Covid-19 needs to be considered so having additional isolation areas available or another contingency plan for dealing with additional cases must be planned. It would be important that the designated area has the ability to isolate the person behind a closed door and away from other workers If a person displays symptoms of Covid-19 the following procedure is to be implemented: ✓ Isolate the person and have a procedure in place to accompany the individual to the designated isolation area via the isolation route, keeping at least 2 metres away from the symptomatic person and also making sure that others maintain a distance of at least 2 metres from the symptomatic person at all times. ✓ Provide a mask for the person presenting with symptoms if one is available. He/she should wear the mask if in a common area with other people or while exiting the premises.	Requires monitoring	Board of Management Principal Staff

Who may be affected? Identified	d Risks	Dealing with a suspected case of Covid-19 (continued) Controls	Risk Rating with controls	Action implementation
Staff Pupils Visitors Contractors Persons currer most at risk of contract they catch the contract they catch the conditions – i.e. lung disease, pressure, diabeted pregnant wom Known effects coronavirus: A fever (high to 37.5 degrees Celsed A cough - this kind of cough, recough Shortness of breathing difficul Loss of sense of Loss of sense of Loss of sense of Death	ntly deemed omplications if oronavirus are: e and over term medical heart disease, high blood es or cancer nen es of the emperature of sius or above) is can be any not just a dry of breath or lties f smell of taste or	up actions and recovery.	Requires monitoring	Board of Management Principal Staff

Who may be affected?	Identified Risks	Covid-19 cleaning	Risk Rating	Action implementation
ancetea.	identified Risks	Controls	with controls	Action implementation
Staff Pupils Visitors	Persons currently deemed most at risk of complications if they catch the coronavirus are: • 60 years of age and over • have long-term medical conditions – i.e. heart disease, lung disease, high blood pressure, diabetes or cancer • pregnant women Known effects of the coronavirus: • A fever (high temperature of 37.5 degrees Celsius or above) • A cough - this can be any kind of cough, not just a dry cough • Shortness of breath or breathing difficulties • Loss of sense of smell • Loss of sense of taste or distortion of sense of taste • Death	suspected coronavirus (Covid-19) case. This will reduce the risk of passing the infection on to other people ✓ The area should be kept closed and secure for 72 hours (if possible) for cleaning as the amount of virus living on surfaces will have reduced significantly by 72 hours ✓ For cleaning purposes, wear a face mask, disposable or washing up gloves. These should be double-bagged, then stored securely for 72 hours and then put with the regular rubbish after cleaning is finished should be double-bagged, ✓ Using a disposable cloth, first clean hard surfaces with warm soapy water. Then disinfect these surfaces with the cleaning products you normally use. Pay particular attention to frequently touched areas and surfaces, such as toilets, banisters on stairwells and door handles ✓ If an area has been heavily contaminated, such as with visible bodily fluids, from a person with coronavirus (Covid-19) consider using protection for the eyes, mouth and nose, as well as wearing gloves and apron ✓ Wash hands regularly with soap and water for 20 seconds and after removing gloves,	Requires monitoring	Board of Management Principal Cleaning staff

Pupils Visitors F	Identified Risks Spread of Covid-19 virus	Controls All cleaning will be undertaken in line with DES and public health guidance.	with controls	Action implementation Board of Management
Pupils Visitors F	Spread of Covid-19 virus	All cleaning will be undertaken in line with DES and public health guidance.		Board of Management
	most at risk of complications if they catch the coronavirus are: • 60 years of age and over • have long-term medical conditions – i.e. heart disease, lung disease, high blood pressure, diabetes or cancer • pregnant women Known effects of the coronavirus: • A fever (high temperature of 37.5 degrees Celsius or above) • A cough - this can be any kind of cough, not just a dry	Use disposable cloths or paper roll and disposable mob heads to clean all hard surface floors, chairs, door handles and sanitary fittings, using an approved and recognised deterge and disinfectant in line with the manufacturer's instructions for dilution, aplication and contatimes Disinfectants used should be effective against viruses. Additionally: Avoid creating splashes and spray when cleaning. Any cloths and mop heads used must be disposed of and should be put into waste bags outlined below. When items cannot be cleaned using detergents or laundered (upholstered furniture mattresses for example) steam cleaning should be used Any items that have been heavily contaminated with bodyfluids and that cannot be cleaned by washing should be disposed of If possible, keep an area closed off and secure for 72 hours. After this time the amount of virus contamination will have decreased substantially, and cleaning can take place as normal	Requires monitoring	Principal Cleaning staff

ho may be affected? Identified Risks	Cleaning a space with a suspected/confirmed case of Covid-19 (continued)	Risk Rating with controls	Action implementatio
	Controls		
Staff Pupils Visitors Persons currently deemed most at risk of complications if they catch the coronavirus are: • 60 years of age and over • have long-term medical conditions – i.e. heart disease, lung disease, high blood pressure, diabetes or cancer • pregnant women Known effects of the coronavirus: • A fever (high temperature of 37.5 degrees Celsius or above) • A cough - this can be any kind of cough, not just a dry cough • Shortness of breath or breathing difficulties • Loss of sense of smell • Loss of sense of taste or distortion of sense of taste • Death	water setting and dry items completely. Dirty laundry that has been in contact with an unwell person can be washed with other people's items. Do not shake dirty laundry as this minimises the possibility of dispersing the virus through the air ✓ Clean and disinfect anything used for transporting laundry with your usual products, in line with the cleaning guidance outlined above Waste Management ✓ Waste should be put in a plastic rubbish bag and tied when full ✓ The plastic bag should then be placed in a second bin bag and tied ✓ It should be put in a suitable and secure place and marked for storage until the individual's test results are known ✓ All waste should be stored safely and kept away from children. You should not put waste in communal waste areas until negative test results are known or the waste	Serious Requires monitoring	Board of Managemer Principal Cleaning staff

Who may be affected?	Identified Risks	Travel to and from work Controls		Action implementation
Staff	ор. саа ст сетта <u>то</u> тта	If showing symptoms of Covid-19, adhere to Government guidance. Wear a face mask and carry hand santiser (at least 60% alcohol) and use it regularly throughout your journey.	Requires monitoring	All staff
	pressure, diabetes or cancer • pregnant women Known effects of the coronavirus: • A fever (high temperature of 37.5 degrees Celsius or above) • A cough - this can be any kind of cough, not just a dry cough • Shortness of breath or breathing difficulties • Loss of sense of smell • Loss of sense of taste or distortion of sense of taste • Death			

Who may be affected?	Identified Risks	11 -	picking up of pupils	Risk Rating with controls	Action implementation
Staff Pupils Parents/guardians Bus and taxi drivers Wider Community	Persons currently deemed most at risk of complications if they catch the coronavirus are: • 60 years of age and over • have long-term medical conditions – i.e. heart disease, lung disease, high blood pressure, diabetes or cancer • pregnant women Known effects of the coronavirus: • A fever (high temperature of 37.5 degrees Celsius or above) • A cough - this can be any kind of cough, not just a dry cough • Shortness of breath or breathing difficulties • Loss of sense of smell • Loss of sense of taste or distortion of sense of taste • Death			Requires monitoring	Board of Management Principal Staff Bus drivers

Who may be affected?	Identified Risks	Visitors to school Controls	Risk Rating with controls	Action implementation
Staff Pupils Wider Community	Spread of Covid-19 virus Persons currently deemed most at risk of complications if they catch the coronavirus are: • 60 years of age and over • have long-term medical conditions – i.e. heart disease, lung disease, high blood pressure, diabetes or cancer • pregnant women Known effects of the coronavirus: • A fever (high temperature of 37.5 degrees Celsius or above) • A cough - this can be any kind of cough, not just a dry cough • Shortness of breath or breathing difficulties • Loss of sense of smell • Loss of sense of taste or distortion of sense of taste • Death	Visits to the school will be severely restricted and visitors will be asked to: ✓ Make a prior appointment before visiting the school ✓ Remain at home if they have any Covid-19 symptoms ✓ Sanitise before entering the premises ✓ Attendance to be recorded on entry to building ✓ Wear PPE if instructed	Requires monitoring	Board of Management Principal

Who may be affected?	Identified Risks	Management of deliveries and supplies to school	Risk Rating with controls	Action implementation
		Controls		,
Staff Pupils Drivers Wider Community	Persons currently deemed most at risk of complications if they catch the coronavirus are: • 60 years of age and over • have long-term medical conditions – i.e. heart disease, lung disease, high blood pressure, diabetes or cancer • pregnant women Known effects of the coronavirus: • A fever (high temperature of 37.5 degrees Celsius or above) • A cough - this can be any kind of cough, not just a dry cough • Shortness of breath or breathing difficulties • Loss of sense of smell • Loss of sense of taste or distortion of sense of taste • Death	Appropriate sanitising arrangements at set down areas (for materials and stock) and at access and egress points. .	Requires	Board of Management Principal Staff Delivery personnel

Declaration of Sight

I have read and understand the contents of this document.
Signed: Karen Franklin Dated:
Signed: Siobhán Englsih Dated:
Signed: Marianne Blackwell Dated:
Signed: Maire O'Dea Dated:
Signed: Madeline Hourigan Dated:
Signed: Maria Stephens Dated:
Signed: Joanne Beary Dated: Signed: Bernie Farrell Dated:
Signed: Sarah Crowe Dated:
Signed: Eimear Shanahan Dated:
Signed: Lisa Maher Dated:
Signed: Sinéad FlanaganDated:

Signed:	Dated:	
Signed:	Dated:	
Signed:	Dated:	