



STONYHURST

**STONYHURST COVID-19 RISK ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW**  
**Interim Update effective 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021 – 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022**  
**Applicable to both Stonyhurst College and Stonyhurst St. Mary's Hall**

Introduction	<p>This document is an update to Stonyhurst’s previous Covid-19 Risk Assessments.</p> <p>It is an interim update to cover the period <u>10<sup>th</sup> December until 10<sup>th</sup> January</u>. A more comprehensive RA document will be provided prior to the start of the new term. It will be distributed to staff and published on the Stonyhurst Website.</p> <p>The information provided now is based on the Government briefing of December 8<sup>th</sup> when the Prime Minister announced further restrictions in England due to current concerns about the emerging Omicron Variant of Covid-19. Full details of the announcement by the Prime Minister can be found at: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-confirms-move-to-plan-b-in-england">Prime Minister confirms move to Plan B in England - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a></p>
Previous Covid-19 Risk Assessments	<p>Throughout the pandemic Stonyhurst has been committed to Covid-security. An archived list of all previous Covid-19 documentation can be found on the Covid Information page of the Stonyhurst Website <a href="#">Covid-19 Information   Stonyhurst</a></p>
Current Contextualisation	<p>Over the past few weeks there has been growing concern internationally about the emergence of a new variant of Covid-19, which has been given the name Omicron. Whilst there remains significant uncertainty about Omicron in terms of the seriousness of the illness caused and its ability to evade the current vaccines, there is evidence that it spreads more rapidly than previous variants, including Delta. Concern about the transmission rate of Omicron has prompted the UK Government to introduce some further restrictions in England to try and slow the spread of the new variant. The restrictions form part of the Government’s pandemic strategy and sit alongside the recently updated information in relation to the Covid-19 Vaccination programme and the changes to Travel rules.</p> <p>Government information on the new restrictions, on vaccination strategies and on travel rules can be found via the following links:</p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/coronavirus-how-to-stay-safe-and-help-prevent-the-spread">Coronavirus: how to stay safe and help prevent the spread - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus/coronavirus-vaccination">Book or manage a coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination - NHS (www.nhs.uk)</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/travel-to-england-from-another-country-during-coronavirus-covid-19">Travel to England from another country during coronavirus (COVID-19) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/red-list-of-countries-and-territories">Red list of countries and territories - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a></p>
At Stonyhurst	<p>Stonyhurst will continue to comply with all Covid-19 legislation and be mindful of all guidance from the Government and other relevant expert bodies. Updated guidance for schools can be found at <a href="https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/guidance/schools-covid-19-operational-guidance">Schools COVID-19 operational guidance (publishing.service.gov.uk)</a></p> <p>An email sent on December 7<sup>th</sup> by the Bursar to all staff provided guidance for colleagues who will be on campus outside the school term. However, following the Government announcement on December 8<sup>th</sup>, it is now necessary to provide colleagues with a further update as detailed on page 2. It is important as we continue to face the challenges of Covid-19 that we all do everything we can to keep ourselves and each other safe.</p>

<p>Changes across England following the December 8<sup>th</sup> announcement by the Prime Minister</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>From Friday December 10<sup>th</sup>, face coverings will be required by law in most indoor settings.</b> Updated guidance can be found at: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-exemptions-and-how-to-make-your-own">Face coverings: when to wear one, exemptions, and how to make your own - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a></li> <li>• <b>From Monday December 13<sup>th</sup>, office-based workers who <u>can</u> work from home should do so</b> (in consultation with their employer)</li> <li>• <b>From Wednesday December 15<sup>th</sup> rules will change in relation to entry to certain venues and events,</b> including a legal requirement to check that all visitors aged 18 or over are fully vaccinated, or have proof of a negative Covid Lateral Flow test in the last 48 hours or have an exemption</li> </ul>
<p>Keeping each other safe at Stonyhurst</p>	<p><b>We are grateful to colleagues for their on-going efforts to keep Stonyhurst as safe as possible for everyone.</b></p> <p><b>In the face of the potential increased infection risks posed by Omicron, please could we respectfully ask all members of the Stonyhurst Community to continue to follow Covid-secure protocols.</b></p> <p><b>These include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be alert to the risks posed by Covid-19 to yourself and to others</li> <li>• Do not come onto Campus if you have any Covid symptoms, or have a positive LFT or PCR result, or have been told by Test &amp; Trace to self-isolate</li> <li>• Take regular LF Tests prior to coming onto Campus</li> <li>• If bringing visitors onto Campus, please observe and comply with the Covid-19 Visitor Protocol</li> <li>• Maintain excellent hand and respiratory hygiene</li> <li>• Where possible limit close social contact and practice social distancing whilst on Campus</li> <li>• Consider holding meetings on Teams or Zoom</li> <li>• When meeting in person on Campus try to use spaces with good ventilation</li> <li>• Wear a face-covering in any indoor area on Campus where social distancing is not possible or where there is limited ventilation</li> <li>• Where you can, with the agreement of your Line Manager, work from home</li> <li>• Respect that colleagues may have different views of Covid-risk and be mindful of the needs of those who may be more vulnerable to serious complications from Covid</li> <li>• Comply with all Government legislation including in relation to testing, self-isolation, and travel</li> </ul>
<p>Summing-up</p>	<p>Covid-19 continues to present a global challenge.</p> <p>There is currently significant uncertainty about the impact of the new Omicron Variant. The Government may make further announcements during the next few weeks.</p> <p>It is a fast-moving situation and Stonyhurst will continue to monitor the situation closely and will provide a further update in January.</p>