



STONYHURST COLLEGE and STONYHURST ST. MARY'S HALL

COVID-19 RISK ASSESSMENT Effective from 24th February 2022

Introduction and Context

Stonyhurst remains committed to providing as safe an environment as possible for members of the Community and for anyone visiting the Campus/Estate. Over the past two years, Stonyhurst has done all that it can, *Quant je puis*, to continue to offer the highest quality education within the challenging context of Covid-19. At all times Stonyhurst has complied with Government legislation and guidance, and in developing and evolving our Covid-strategy we have been mindful of advice and guidance from a wide range of appropriate sources including the DfE; PHE; NHS England, HSE, BSA and local Health authorities and relevant bodies.

The Government announced on 21st February the removal of all remaining legislative Covid restrictions and replaced them with guidance. Included in the guidance was advice on "Safe Behaviours".

The Government's ["Living with Covid" plan](#) includes:

From 24 February:

- People with Covid are not legally required to self-isolate, however, guidance recommends that those who test positive stay at home and avoid contact with others for at least five full days
- Self-isolation support payments of £500 for those on low incomes have stopped
- Routine contact tracing has ended - people in contact with someone with Covid will no longer be advised to self-isolate or take daily tests
- Face coverings are [not mandatory on Transport for London's tubes, trains or buses](#), but they are still "strongly encouraged"
- The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (England) (No. 3) Regulations have been revoked. Local authorities will continue to manage local outbreaks of COVID-19 in high-risk settings as they do with other infectious diseases.

From 1 April:

- PCR and lateral flow Covid tests will no longer be free for most people
- Covid passports will no longer be recommended, except for international travel
- Employers will no longer have to consider Covid as a separate risk when working out how to keep employees safe

Further information about the "Living with Covid" strategy is expected to be provided by the Government prior to April 1st.

N.B. The above arrangements relate to England. Regulations within the devolved nations (Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland) may be different.

More detailed information can be found within the following links:

[PM statement at Covid press conference: 21 February 2022 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

[Prime Minister sets out plan for living with COVID - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

[COVID-19 Response: Living with COVID-19 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

[Details - Lancashire County Council](#) (Updated 21st February)

[Schools COVID-19 operational guidance \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#) (updated 24th February)

[Travel to England from another country during coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) (updated 24th February)

[BSA update: Operational Guidance for schools update / Student visa concessions extended to June 30, 2022 | The Boarding Schools' Association](#)

Safe Behaviours

Stonyhurst will make best endeavours to promote the “Safe Behaviours” detailed in the Government Guidance. The following extract is from the Government’s “Living with Covid” Plan:

“People will continue to be advised that there are safer behaviours they can adopt to reduce the risk of infection. Precautions remain particularly important to those who are at higher risk if they catch COVID-19, although due to advances in vaccination and therapeutics, this group is now better protected. The majority of people previously considered clinically extremely vulnerable are now advised to follow the same general guidance as everyone else as a result of the protection they have received from vaccination. Individuals can still reduce the risk of catching and passing on COVID-19 by:

- *Vaccination*
- *Letting fresh air in if meeting indoors, or by meeting outside*
- *Wearing a face covering in crowded and enclosed spaces, especially where you come into contact with people you do not usually meet, when rates of transmission are high*
- *Trying to stay at home if you are unwell*
- *Taking a test if you have COVID-19 symptoms, and staying at home and avoiding contact with other people if you test positive*
- *Washing your hands and following advice to ‘Catch it, Bin it, Kill it’*

Covid-19 Risk Assessment

Following an extensive vaccination programme and an assessment of the current Covid-risk, the UK Government now feels able to lift all remaining legislative Covid-19 restrictions in England, replacing them with guidance and an emphasis on personal responsibility.

At Stonyhurst, much of the daily life of the Community is now returning to normal. However we continue to ask for your vigilance and support in controlling the spread of the virus and preventing, as far as is possible, any further Covid-related disruption.

Following the latest Government announcement, Stonyhurst has revised its Covid-19 Risk Assessment and strategy as detailed on Page 3.

What do the Government changes mean in practical terms at Stonyhurst?

- We are asking pupils and staff not to come onto Campus if they are experiencing any Covid-related symptoms. Boarding pupils must alert their Houseparent and/or the Health Centre if they feel unwell
- Stonyhurst will encourage all staff, pupils and visitors to follow the Government Guidance on self-isolation regimes
- At least until the 1st April, LFT tests will be available on Campus. LFT tests can still be collected by staff from Reception at the Glass Doors and pupils can obtain a test via the Health Centre
- There will no longer be regular testing of Boarding pupils on campus
- Day-pupils and staff will no longer be asked to take two LFTs per week
- Face-coverings are no longer required but any pupil or member of staff wishing to wear one can do so
- Pupils and staff will continue to be asked to use the Sanitiser stations situated around the Campus
- Pupils will be reminded that the virus has not gone away and urged to be mindful of the need for some degree of caution. Good hand and respiratory hygiene will be encouraged with key messages reinforced via Assemblies and Tutorials
- Pupils and staff will be asked to respect that some members of the Stonyhurst community will be more vulnerable than others to Covid-19 and therefore to adopt behaviours which will help keep everyone safe
- Staff will be asked to consider ventilation within their classrooms and offices, where possible ensuring maximum ventilation
- Staff organising meetings will be asked to consider room size and ventilation when arranging venues
- A revised Covid-19 Visitor Protocol has been prepared which asks visitors not to come onto Campus if they are feeling unwell
- The Covid-19 Visitor Questionnaire will no longer be in use
- Whilst Visitors to Stonyhurst will no longer need to take a LFT, if they wish to do so, at least until 1st April, Stonyhurst will provide access to a Test
- There are no longer any specific restrictions on Travel to the UK for international Boarding pupils and Boarding pupils will not be tested on their return to School after Easter. However, if they are experiencing symptoms, they must notify staff on arrival at Stonyhurst

Looking forward

It is very much hoped that Stonyhurst can now proceed very much on the basis of “business as usual” and that our pupils can enjoy the full and extensive Stonyhurst experience without restrictions. However, as we learn to “live with Covid”, Stonyhurst will continue to monitor the local, national and international situations in relation to Covid-19 and will be ready to respond as necessary.

From 1st April 2022 it is most likely that there will no longer be a requirement for Covid to be separately Risk-assessed and therefore going forward it will be incorporated into the standard Stonyhurst Risk Assessment processes, unless a change in circumstances dictates otherwise.

Signed:

Stonyhurst Headmaster



SMH Headmaster

Signed:

