GENERAL HEALTH AND SAFETY RISK ASSESSMENT FORM

| Site | | **University of Birmingham** | | | | **Department** | | | | **COLLES** | | | **Version / Ref No.** | | | **V4.0** | | | |
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| **Activity Location** | | **Hills Building** | | | | **Activity Description** | | | | **Office Spaces, PG Rooms, Training Rooms, Testing Rooms/Cubicles** | | | | | | | | | |
| **Assessor** | | **Dom Hickey** | | | | **Assessment Date** | | | | **25th August 2020** | | **Date of Assessment Review** | **23rd September 2020 & 13th January 2021 & 1st June 2021** | | | | | | |
| **Academic / Manager Name** | | **Ed Wilding** | | | | **Academic / Manager Signature** | | | | A close up of a hanger  Description automatically generated | | | | | | | | | |
| Hazard Assessment | | | | | Control Assessment | | | | | | | | | | | | Actions | | |
| Hazard Category | Hazards Identified | | Who might be harmed?  Staff  Students  Contractors  Others | How might people be harmed? | Existing Control Measures | | Initial Risk Rating | | | | Are these adequate?  Yes/No | Changes to/ Additional Controls | | Residual Risk Rating | | | Owner | Due  Date | Action Complete |
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| Organisational | Psychological well being | | Staff / Students | Anxiety and stress caused by concerns around returning to work and studies on Campus | Regular communication is in place (individual and group) via daily team briefings, regular email bulletins and 121 meetings,to ensure staff and students are not ill-informed about returning to work safely.  Advice is shared with staff members and staff have been fully briefed and kept up to date with current advice on staying protected through the University’s lines of communications (i,e line managers, Internal Comms) and shared with staff via daily team briefings, regular email bulletins, 121 meeting*s*  and the University’s Coronavirus FAQs [click here](https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/coronavirus/faqs-for-staff.aspx):  New workplace/controls put in place to reduce risk of exposure to COVID 19 are documented in procedures and policies and disseminated to employees through Line Managers and *University Guidance*. These include:   * ***Social distancing: General guidance for staff and students*** * ***Social distancing: Buildings Induction Document*** * ***Social distancing: Building checklist*** * ***On-line induction materials for returning to campus***: combination of the guidance and videos.   https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/coronavirus/essential-resources-and-checklist.aspx   * ***Return to Campus COVID-19: Building Risk Assessment***   Line managers are aware of how big changes to working arrangements may cause additional work-related stress and affect their employees’ mental health and wellbeing and individuals have been made aware via team meetings, and one to one meetings, and in School health and safety committeeof guidance available in relation to this:  <https://www.hse.gov.uk/stress/>  <https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/coronavirus/Coronavirus-wellbeing-support.aspx>  <http://www.selfhelpguides.ntw.nhs.uk/birmingham/leaflets/selfhelp/Stress.pdf> | | 3 | 2 | 6 | | Yes |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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| Organisational | Psychological well being | Staff | Anxiety and stress caused by concerns around returning to work on Campus | Managers hold regular informal discussionswith their team via phone or online call and look at ways to reduce causes of stress.  Concerns on workload issues or support needs are escalated to line manager through informal/formal lines of communication with Staff or colleagues.  Staff who are in clinically vulnerable groups themselves and identified to be considered in ‘at risk’ groups are encouraged by line managers to discuss their support needs to ensure additional measures are put in place to protect them including working from home.  Staff will be informed via email that:  Staff/students who *should not* under any circumstance work on campus have been identified and include:   * Any member of staff who has been through a return to work on campus assessment and has been advised by Occupational Health or a medical professional (including a midwife in respect of pregnancy) not to travel to work on campus. * Staff in the clinically extremely vulnerable category for whom current guidance is that they should not to travel to work, even where their work cannot be undertaken remotely.   <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19#who-is-clinically-extremely-vulnerable>  Managers/supervisors have discussed alternative arrangements with them to ensure that they do not return to work on campus. Staff who *should not* under any circumstance work on campus  Existing risk assessments (including those for new or expectant mothers) reviewed and revised to reflect new working arrangements. Reasonable adjustments made, including those needed for PEEPs especially in relation to who will assist with their evacuation in an emergency, to avoid staff that require them including disabled workers being put at a disadvantage.  Employees who have concerns about either continuing to work on Campus or working from home/remotely have discussed these with their line manager or supervisor and where necessary an occupational health referral has been made using the Occupational Health Referral for Covid-19 Assessment Form.  <https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/hr/wellbeing/index.aspx>  <https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/hr/documents/public/Wellbeing/Covid-19-Return-to-Campus-Discussion-Form.docx>  Employees are made aware of support mechanisms available to them (e.g. counselling, occupational health, HR, etc.) through line managers, internal communications and University webpages:  <https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/coronavirus/faqs-for-staff.aspx>  <https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/hr/wellbeing/index.aspx>  <https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/hr/wellbeing/workhealth/index.aspx>  This link is for students:  <https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/student/coronavirus/Wellbeing.aspx> | 3 | 2 | 6 | Yes |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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| Biological | Virus transmission in the workplace | Staff / Students | Exposure to respiratory droplets carrying COVID-19 from an infectious individual transmitted via sneezing, coughing or speaking. | ***Social distancing: Hills Building checklist***has been completed to identify the control measures to consider reducing the risk of workplace infections.  Managers/supervisors ensure staff and students with any form of illness do not attend work/campus until the illness has been verified as not being Covid-19. Staff to work using the mixed model of site and home based as agreed with line manager, in line with Government and University guidance.  Managers/supervisors keep track of when staff and students can return to work/ Campus after the symptom free period.  Regular access to the Lateral Flow Device screening tests provided to staff and students who are coming onto campus.  The University’s [***On-line induction materials for returning to campus***](https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/coronavirus/essential-resources-and-checklist.aspx) combination of the guidance and videos have been provided and completed for all staff working in University buildings*.*  Posters are displayed that encourage staying home when sick, cough and sneeze etiquette in numerous places – including entrances to the University and within buildings.  To help with consistency and adherence to building specific measures such as access routes, occupancy limits etc. staff from other departments accessing the building (such as cleaning and Estates) have received a building specific induction including information and on site induction.  Schedules for essential services and contractor visits revised to reduce interaction and overlap between people and building managers and occupants informed of when the visits will take place and which services are being maintained e.g., carrying out services out of hours.  Un-essential trips within buildings and sites prevented and discouraged, e.g. access to some areas may be restricted for staff who do not need access. Building traffic will also be reduced by making use of other technologies e.g. Phone, email, virtual meetings etc.  To help with consistency and adherence to building specific measures such as access routes, occupancy limits etc. staff from other departments accessing the building (such as cleaning and Estates) have received a building specific induction including information and on-site inductions.  Un-essential trips within buildings and sites discouraged and reduced, e.g. access to some areas may be restricted for staff who do not need access. Building traffic will also be reduced by making use of other technologies e.g. Phone, email, virtual meetings etc.  Authorisation process of staff to return will require UoB COVID canvas course to be completed, and local building induction to have been read and agreed. Line Managers are to monitor compliance with this requirement. | 3 | 2 | 6 | Yes |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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| Biological | Virus transmission in the workplace due to lack of social distancing | Staff / Students | Exposure to respiratory droplets carrying COVID-19 from an infectious individual transmitted via sneezing, coughing or speaking. | Only essential work authorised and approved by the Government and University is permitted in University buildings.  Workplace routines changed to ensure room/building capacity calculated to maintain at least 2m social distancing is not exceeded ~~including:~~   * ~~Change to peak staff entry and exit times. Access to the building will be between 8.30 and 6.pm 5 days a week~~ * ~~Amended shift routines. Rotas to reduce presence of staff at any one time to be managed centrally. Team meetings to be held virtually.~~   To help contain clusters and outbreaks and assist the University with any requests for data by the NHS Test and Trace service a temporary record of shift patterns and teams and attendance in the building is kept for 21 days. NHS Test and Trace QR code is displayed in the building for visitors and staff to scan using the NHS Covid-19 app.  Access control for each building in the College has been reviewed and a phased reoccupation has been put into place, with work that can be done off campus continued to be done away from the Hills Building.  Procedure in place for dealing with instance of unexpected employee (identified through not being included on the College approved list and not wearing the authorised lanyard) 3rd party arrival (e.g. The staff member will be told by a local rep to leave site and confirm with their line manager the return to campus process.)  Work has been arranged so that staff are able to maintain the government guidelines for social distancing based on our industry which are included in the latest Guidance on these measures can be found by clicking the following link [Social Distancing Guidelines](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/social-distancing-in-the-workplace-during-coronavirus-covid-19-sector-guidance#shops-running-a-pick-up-or-delivery-service).  Due to the potential increased risk of transmission from aerosol transmission steps have been taken to avoid people needing to unduly raise their voices to each other e.g. not playing music or broadcasts at a volume that makes normal conversation difficult, using microphones during training sessions.  One-way flow systems implemented where feasible and visual aids, such as floor strips, signage are used for maintaining social distancing throughout the building/workplace and have been designed to be clear to the users of the space. The signage and systems in the building will be kept under review and changed following feedback from users.  Staff activities are segregated to promote the 2m social distancing rules including:   * Work stations moved or staff relocated. Desks are arranged with employees facing in opposite directions. * Areas of work marked out with floor tape to ensure adequate social distancing is in place. Visual management aids in place to remind people of the need for social distancing. * Headcount capacity to ensure social distances standards have been displayed on notices to the entrance to rooms * Staff encouraged to remain on-site including bringing their own lunch and, when not possible, maintaining social distancing while off-site. * Outside areas can be used for breaks. * Welfare areas for serving hot food or drinks have been assessed in accordance with government guidance and tables/seating from welfare areas moved to create 2m social distancing separation and avoid large groups congregating. Smaller kitchens use a one out one in policy. All users are encouraged to wash their hands prior to using equipment (kettle) and to wash their hands after use. Additional signage for the correct method for handwashing displayed. * Social distancing is marked on the corridor floor prior to entry to the WCs (toilets). Smaller facilities has a one out one in policy. Additional signage has been placed on facilities doors to announce people’s presence and to ensure hands are washed via correct method for handwashing prior to and after use. Building users are reminded to leave the facilities in a respectable condition.   Visits from people outside of the building are managed via remote connection/working where this is an option. Where this is not an option, and only if the visit is essential.  All corridors are:   * Marked in areas to ensure social distancing is adhered to. * Have a one-way system around the building where space requires. * Corridors that are sufficiently wide have a two-way system of use, people using the corridor must stay to their left.   Information provided and signs displayed informing people to use the stairwells rather than lifts unless they have difficulty using the stairs. The maximum occupancy of the lift has been reduced to one unless a user of the lift has a carer in which case it is 2*.* Once users have left the lift posters are displayed to encourage them to wash their hands and avoid touching their face.  their face.  There are designated stairwell for going up and a designated stairwell for coming down, this system will be enforced with signage and reminders to staff in buildings inductions. Peers and Managers are expected to enforce the rules to all transgressors.  Additional signage in stairwells reminding staff about social distancing. Wash hand / use hand sanitiser on exit from stairwell.  Social gathering amongst employees is not permitted whilst at work including meetings where web conferencing software will be used to virtual meetings.  Large gatherings including University events organised in public outdoor spaces have been cancelled or postponed.  Managers perform frequent evaluation against social distances controls. These evaluations can comprise of visual checks on a weekly basis. Staff are reminded through informal meetings of the importance of social distancing both in the workplace and outside of it.  Near-miss reporting is encouraged to identify where controls cannot be followed or people are not doing what they should.  Only essential work authorised and approved by the Government and University is permitted in University buildings. Where the 2m social distancing guidelines cannot be followed in full in relation to a particular essential activity Where the 2m social distancing guidelines cannot be followed in full in relation to a particular activity, such as exam filing, consideration has been given to whether that activity needs to continue, and, if so, all the mitigating actions possible to reduce the risk of transmission between staff have been included in a task specific risk assessment and are being taken. Mitigating actions include:   * Further increasing the frequency of hand washing and provision of hand sanitiser and surface cleaning. * Keeping the activity time involved as short as possible. * Using screens or barriers to separate people from each other. * Using back-to-back or side-to-side working (rather than face-to-face) whenever possible. * Reducing the number of people each person has contact with by using ‘fixed teams or partnering’ (so each person works with only a few others). * Re-engineering the technical activity. * Improving ventilation by re-organising the indoor space to optimise the ventilation available. * Re-organising pedestrian flows * No working in close proximity to people and in particular a person’s face, mouth and nose, for an extended period of time (the majority of the working day) is permitted unless the work is essential such as in clinical settings, like a hospital, or other close contact roles for example, Occupational Health clinical services where there is an activity specific risk assessment and PPE is provided for individuals undertaking this work.   Individuals (including staff, students, visitors and contractors), unless exempt, are required to wear face coverings, inside all University buildings at all times except for in single occupancy rooms. Information provided in the University and local communications and local inductions and signs displayed informing people of the mandatory requirement to wear a face covering within the building.  Individuals, unless exempt, are required to wear face coverings, in all University learning environments, where the use of the face covering does not impact teaching and learning. Information provided in the University and local communications and signs displayed informing people of the mandatory requirement to wear a face covering within the building.  Individuals have been reminded through inductions, reminders and signage of how to use face coverings safely including the following:   * wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser before putting a face covering on, and before and after removing it * when wearing a face covering, avoid touching your face or face covering, as you could contaminate them with germs from your hands * change your face covering if it becomes damp or if you’ve touched it * continue to wash your hands regularly * change and wash your face covering daily * if the material is washable, wash in line with manufacturer’s instructions. If it’s not washable, dispose of it carefully in your usual waste * practise social distancing wherever possible   When wearing a face covering you should:   * wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser before putting a face covering on * avoid wearing on your neck or forehead * avoid touching the part of the face covering in contact with your mouth and nose, as it could be contaminated with the virus * change the face covering if it becomes damp or if you’ve touched it * avoid taking it off and putting it back on a lot in quick succession (for example, when leaving and entering buildings)   When removing a face covering:   * wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser before removing * only handle the straps, ties or clips * do not give it to someone else to use * if single-use, dispose of it carefully in a residual waste bin and do not recycle * if reusable, wash it in line with manufacturer’s instructions at the highest temperature appropriate for the fabric * wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser once removed   Individuals have been reminded through inductions, signage and other information how to use face coverings safely.  Hygiene guidance given such as avoiding touching eyes, nose, mouth and unwashed hands, cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, and throw it away in a bin and wash your hands in inductions, team meetings and staff by colleagues.  Adequate training has been made on what PPE is required, the correct donning/doffing of PPE and face fit testing. Government advice is followed:  <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-personal-protective-equipment-ppe>  <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings>  PHE quick guides for correct donning and doffing of PPE for [non-AGPs.](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-personal-protective-equipment-use-for-non-aerosol-generating-procedures) as well as for[AGPs](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-personal-protective-equipment-use-for-aerosol-generating-procedures). 19 has been utilised for examples in best practice for putting on and taking off (donning and doffing).  Face coverings are not PPE and are not required to be worn in the workplace where 2m social distancing can be maintained. However where people choose to wear them managers support them. | 3 | 2 | 6 | Yes | Staff will be informed via email once this RA is approved that the following changes are in place:   * Staff are now able to work on campus, ensuring they adhere to the procedures such as social distancing and mask wearing. * Access to the building will be between 7am and 7pm 7 days a week for staff. * For workweek access only, requests need to be sent to the Psychology H&S Coordinator two weeks in advance. Requesters need to have completed the mandatory Canvas Course <https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/coronavirus/essential-resources-and-checklist.aspx> must have familiarised with protocols and procedures in place <https://bham.sharepoint.com/sites/PsychologyBuildings-Project/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?share=Ed8O-YHuKS1FkqJWnYSTz54BYaKcbxOauDz0QmezSGnFhw&e=N7Nv34> and have read this risk assessment. * Requests for weekend access are in addition to the building access and need to adhere to the lone working procedures <https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/hr/wellbeing/worksafe/lone-working/loneworking.aspx>. Weekend access should be requested in advance to the health and safety coordinator. * Research Assistants can apply for weekend access but will need further approval from their PI when applying to H&S Coordinator/and/or Chair who will need to fill and send the manager form for lone working <https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/hr/wellbeing/worksafe/lone-working/loneworking.aspx>. * Procedures are in place to ensure room and building capacity are not exceeding, including signage for occupancy and routines to ensure staff alternate in the room. * Meetings can take place in meeting rooms following the requirements for teaching activities in the appropriate risk assessment and adhering to maximum room occupancy * Staff are encouraged not to bring in their own lunch nor consume food in the building. * Staff are encouraged to take breaks outside when socialising with others and maintain social distancing. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Biological | Suspected case of COVID-19 | Staff / Students | Exposure to respiratory droplets carrying and contact with an object that has been contaminated with COVID-19. | Response plan in place in the event of a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19 and communicated and includes:   * If a person becomes unwell in the workplace with suspected COVID-19, they will be sent home in accordance to the University guidance. If any students appear unwell or make comment or complain to staff members that they are feeling unwell they will be asked to leave the building with immediate effect and to follow the University and Government advice. Managers will follow the NHS Test and Trace workplace guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-test-and-trace-workplace-guidance> * The area will be cleaned in accordance with the specific Government [guidance](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings) and includes:   + Cleaning an area with validated disinfectants after someone with suspected coronavirus (COVID-19) has left will reduce the risk of passing the infection on to other people   + Where possible the area will be closed and secure for 72 hours, before cleaning as the amount of virus living on surfaces will have reduced significantly by 72 hours   + Disposable gloves, masks and aprons will be worn for cleaning. These will be double bagged, then stored securely for 72 hours then thrown away in the regular rubbish after cleaning is finished   + Once symptomatic, all surfaces that the person has come into contact with will be cleaned with validated disinfectants (including touchpoints) * Provision and monitoring of adequate supplies of cleaning materials are in place. * Team briefed via online meeting/email on actions to be taken in the event of someone being suspected of having COVID-19. * Staff must tell their line manager if they develop symptoms. Absence will be managed in accordance to the University guidance provided. * Employees to follow the Government advice: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus> * Line managers will maintain regular contact with staff members during this time, in accordance with the University sickness absence guidance and monitor for signs of symptoms in the remaining workforce and keep Senior Managers informed of the situation whilst following the Government’s guidance for contact tracing: contact with co-workers: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-test-and-trace-workplace-guidance> * If an individual tests positive for COVID-19 this will be managed in accordance with the University’s [Test, Trace and Protect Process](https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/coronavirus/test-and-trace.aspx). * If multiple cases of coronavirus appear in a workplace, an outbreak control team from either the local authority or Public Health England will, if necessary, be assigned to help the University manage the outbreak. The University will seek advice from the local authority in the first instance. * Individuals will be told to isolate because they:   + have coronavirus symptoms and are awaiting a test result   + have tested positive for coronavirus   + are a member of the same household as someone who has symptoms or has tested positive for coronavirus   + have been in close recent contact with someone who has tested positive and received a notification to self-isolate from NHS test and trace.   <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>  Staff to be encouraged to download the government COVID-19 contract tracing app when available. | 3 | 2 | 6 | Yes |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Biological | Someone entering the workplace with COVID-19 | Staff/Students/Contractors/Visitors | Exposure to respiratory droplets carrying and contact with an object that has been contaminated with COVID-19. | Companies who regularly attend or work in the building requested to provide their health and safety policy/arrangements / or RAMS (risk assessment and method statement) regarding COVID-19 to be reviewed by the person managing the work, help can be sought from Dom Hickey College H&S Manager.  Services are working with the University’s supply chain to ensure that they’re adopting good practices to prevent the spread of COVID-19 to discuss arrangements and control measures.  Anybody visiting site will be informed that they are not to enter if they’re experiencing COVID-19 symptoms or should be self-isolating under the government Guidelines.  If a person becomes unwell in a University workplace with suspected COVID-19, they will be sent home in accordance to their company’s guidance. University managers will follow the NHS Test and Trace workplace guidance for any University staff that may have come into contact with them: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-test-and-trace-workplace-guidance>  Posters / information displayed by entrance doors | 3 | 2 | 6 | Yes |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Biological | Virus transmission in the workplace | Staff/Students/Contractors/Visitors | Contact with an object that has been contaminated with COVID-19 and which subsequently transmits this to another person e.g. surfaces, any inanimate objects & touch points including work surfaces, work equipment, door handles, banisters, chair arms and floors.  Contact with an object that has been contaminated with COVID-19 and which subsequently transmits this to another person e.g. surfaces, any inanimate objects & touch points including work surfaces, work equipment, door handles, banisters, chair arms and floors. | Individuals have been instructed and are regularly reminded as part of team meetings and inductions to clean their hands frequently with soap and water for 20 seconds and the importance of proper drying in accordance with the NHS Guidance:  <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/best-way-to-wash-your-hands/>  Posters are displayed around the workplace including in welfare facilities, focal areas such as lifts, and staircases.  Soap and water and hand sanitiser are provided in the workplace and adequate supplies are maintained and are placed at the entrance to the building and in other areas such as staircases and heavy traffic areas where they will be seen.  Individuals have been informed to check their skin for dryness and cracking and to inform their line manager or supervisor if there is a problem.  Individuals are reminded to catch coughs and sneezes in tissues – Follow: “Catch it, Bin it, Kill it” and to avoid touching face, eyes, nose or mouth with unclean hands. Posters are displayed around the workplace including at the main entrance and various other locations.  To help reduce the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) individuals are reminded via regular email commsof the public health advice:  <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do>  A review of the cleaning regime for the building/area to ensure controls are in place to keep surfaces clean and free of contamination has been undertaken, cleaning products and disposable cloths have been made available to all occupants and everyone has been briefed via team meetings, inductions and regular email comms, on the importance of keeping surfaces and work equipment clean.  There is limited or restricted use of high-touch items and equipment, for example, printers or whiteboards.  Objects and surfaces that are touched regularly are cleaned frequently by the users of the building using centrally provided cleaning/anti-bacterial products,such as door handles and keyboards, and making sure there are adequate disposal arrangements.  Internal doors that **are not** signed as fire doors (unless held open with a mechanical device) kept open whilst working (last person out shuts the doors) to prevent multiple people using door handles.  There is clear desk policy in place to reduce the amount of personal items on desks and work benches to be practiced when the space is in use or not in use.  There are cleaning procedures for goods and merchandise entering the site. Greater handwashing and handwashing facilities have been introduced for workers handling goods and merchandise and hand sanitiser provided where this is not practical. Non-business deliveries stopped, for example, personal deliveries to workers.  Everyone is encouraged, via induction, team briefings to keep personal items clean including washing spectacles with soap and water, clean phones, keyboards and shared machinery handles etc. before after and during work.  Staff have been encouraged to bring their own food and kitchen utensils including mugs/cups, cutlery etc.  Regular walk rounds by management will be implemented with an emphasis on sharing best practice have been put in place to ensure people are following controls e.g. implementing the new cleaning regime, following hygiene procedures etc.  COVID-19 cleaning products used have a current valid chemical risk assessment in place and are used in accordance with all prescribed risk controls and monitoring requirements. They are stored so that they are readily available to all users and are labelled according to the Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling (GHS). (See location specific chemical risk assessments for cleaning products used within the area). <https://collaborate.bham.ac.uk/les/colesHS/COSHH%20Assessments/Biosciences/B4628.docx>  All university staff are encouraged to avoid direct personal contact with others i.e. shaking hands etc.  Staff reminded to regularly clean personal items through induction, team meeting and reminders from management and colleagues | 3 | 2 | 6 | Yes |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Biological | Exposure to Existing Hazards | Staff / Students | Increased risk of harm due to controls included in existing risk assessments & safety arrangements affected by COVID-19 measures  Increased risk of harm due to controls included in existing risk assessments & safety arrangements affected by COVID-19 measures | All relevant pre-existing (non COVID) risk assessments including lone working assessments ( <https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/hr/wellbeing/worksafe/lone-working/loneworking.aspx>) and procedures have been reviewed to take into account the impacts of social distancing and other COVID counter measures.  PPE related risk assessments have been reviewed, and will only be relevant in exceptional circumstances in this building to ensure that PPE is provided on an individual basis. Usage is monitored to ensure suitable level of stock of certain PPE such as face masks etc. during this time due to global shortages. Individuals maintain their own equipment in a sterile condition. Users are encouraged to think about what equipment they need to bring with them to campus to avoid where possible the need for additional storage. The taking of PPE home is not permitted.  Emergency Procedures reviewed and revised including:   * **Communication**: people have been made aware via the building inductions and regular notices that in an emergency, for example, an accident or chemical spill or fire, people do not have to stay 2m apart if it would be unsafe. * **Fire procedures:** number and details of nominated fire warden(s) in place, fire muster point confirmed and PEEP requirements defined including who will assist with their evacuation in an emergency.Required modifications to fire alarm practices and evacuation drills to cater for COVID-19 measures have been addressed; ensuring that the activity is still compliant with relevant building and fire codes. * **First Aid:** First aid needs assessment reviewed to take into account the impact of any Local or National Government requirements and any new Guidelines issued by the [University](https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/coronavirus/faqs-for-staff.aspx) or [HSE](https://www.hse.gov.uk/), and first aid information including the location of first aid kits and first aider contact information up to date. * **Hygiene:** Washing facilities with soap/gel available. People involved in the provision of assistance to others have been informed to pay particular attention to sanitation measures immediately afterwards including washing hands.   Safety critical roles will remain in place to aid safe operation. In the event of safety critical roles not being available then a dynamic risk assessment shall be performed by Dom Hickey to ensure measures are introduced to mitigate risk (for example, another area within the building or campus could have a critical role such as first aider that could cover as a temporary solution).  Security implications of changes made to operations and practices in response to COVID-19 Local or National Government requirements, have been considered  Business continuity and disaster recovery plans updated based on COVID-19 implications including Contingency plan in place for possible switch back to national or local lockdown.  Life-saving rules, will continue to be governed, enforced and communicated during COVID-19 especially during any Local or National Government lockdowns in particular “speaking up” if they witness any unsafe behaviours, conditions or symptoms related to COVID-19.  RA’s reviewed and updated accordingly  Staff reminded they are not to take PPE home  Staff reminded to wash hands immediately after assisting others | 3 | 2 | 6 | Yes |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Biological | Inbound & Outbound Goods including Post | Staff/ Students | Exposure to contact with an object that has been contaminated with COVID-19. | Logistics for the deliveries to the unit so that social distancing can be maintained at all times has been considered and include:   * Pick-up and drop-off collection points, procedures, signage and markings revised. * Methods to reduce frequency of deliveries in place - ordering larger quantities less often. * Electronic paperwork is used where possible, and procedures reviewed to enable safe exchange of paper copies where needed, for example, required transport documents. * Where possible and safe, single workers load or unload vehicles or if not possible the same pairs of people, with additional mitigating measures including the wearing of face coverings, are used * Delivery and receipt confirmation made contactless and physical contact when handing goods over to the customer has been avoided. * Where possible all deliveries are stripped of all packaging (which is disposed of). * Strict hand washing procedure in place after handling all deliveries. | 3 | 2 | 6 | Yes |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Biological | Virus transmission outside of the workplace | Staff / Students / Others | Exposure to respiratory droplets carrying and contact with an object that has been contaminated with COVID-19. | On the outside / approach to the building there is signage to warn all prior to entering this building social distancing is in place.  There is signage advising staff to wash their hands regularly and not to touch their face in serval location in the building, including the main entrance and at hand washing facilities.  Entry and exit will be through the main door into the Building.  Controlled access and egress is monitored by facilities team to ensure only staff permitted to use the building are allowed access. Minimal staff will be attending on a rota basis and any noncompliance will be easily recognised, and staff will be refused access. | 3 | 2 | 6 | Yes |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Biological | Travelling to work | Staff / Students | Exposure to respiratory droplets carrying COVID-19. | Sufficient parking restrictions to maintain social distancing measures in place and additional parking is provided in temporary car parks at the University.  Additional facilities such as bike-racks are provided to help people walk, run or cycle to work where possible.  Workers encouraged to avoid public transport where applicable and use alternatives e.g. cycling, walking to work etc. Where staff are unable to avoid public transport they do so in accordance with Government and University Guidance:  <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-travel-guidance-for-passengers>  <https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/coronavirus/faqs-for-staff.aspx>  Staff advised to stagger start and finish times if using public transport and to avoid public transport if at all possible. | 3 | 1 | 3 | Yes |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Biological | Machinery & Equipment | Staff/ Students | Exposure to respiratory droplets carrying and contact with an object that has been contaminated with COVID-19. | Equipment and surfaces that are touched regularly will be frequently cleaned and disinfected by the building users.  Sterilising chemicals and cloths are provided in the area to clean machines and equipment prior to the commencement of work and upon completion. If machines and equipment are shared, sterilising will be carried out between operations by the last user and the next user. | 3 | 2 | 6 | Yes |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Biological | Ventilation | Staff / Students / Others | Exposure to respiratory droplets carrying COVID-19. | All ventilation has been serviced as required. All filters have been changed as required. Ventilation systems will be maintained in line with planned and preventative maintenance schedules.  General considerations reflected on during reopening of the buildings in relation to the Ventilation and fresh air to occupied spaces. Core strategy based on ‘CIBSE Covid-19 Ventilation Guidance’, REHVA guidance, other industry and HSE guidance. <https://www.hse.gov.uk/coronavirus/equipment-and-machinery/air-conditioning-and-ventilation.htm>  The guidance is constantly under review by the University’s Estates as SARS-CoV2 transmission routes become more clearly defined, and any updated recommendations assessed and implemented where relevant to University systems. CIBSE Covid-19 Ventilation Guidance  <https://www.cibse.org/knowledge/knowledge-items/detail?id=a0q3Y00000HsaFtQAJ>  Ventilation systems are monitored in most cases by building management systems that will raise a fault alarm to Estates automatically.  Building users are encouraged where possible to ensure windows are open. | 3 | 2 | 6 | Yes |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Risk Assessment Guidance**

Risk Scoring System

The scoring system is provided as a tool to help structure thinking about assessments and to provide a framework for identifying which are the most serious risks and why.

|  | **Consequence / Severity score (severity levels) and examples of descriptors** | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** |
| **Domains** | **Negligible** | **Minor** | **Moderate** | **Major** | **Catastrophic** |
| **Impact on the safety of staff, students or public (physical / psychological harm)** | Minimal injury not requiring first aid or requiring no/minimal intervention or treatment.  No time off work | Minor injury or illness, first aid treatment needed or requiring minor intervention.  Requiring time off work for <3 days | Moderate injury requiring professional intervention  Requiring time off work for 4-14 days  RIDDOR / MHRA / agency reportable incident | Major injury leading to long-term incapacity/ disability (loss of limb)  Requiring time off work for >14 days | Incident leading to death  Multiple permanent injuries or irreversible health effects |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Likelihood score** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** |
| **Frequency** | **Rare** | **Unlikely** | **Possible** | **Likely** | **Almost certain** |
| **Broad descriptor** | This will probably never happen/occur | Do not expect it to happen/occur but it is possible it may do so | Might happen or occur occasionally | Will probably happen/occur but it is not a persisting issue | Will undoubtedly happen/occur, possibly frequently |
| **Time-framed descriptor** | Not expected to occur  for years | Expected to occur  at least annually | Expected to occur at  least monthly | Expected to occur at least weekly | Expected to occur at least daily |
| **Probability**  Will it happen or not? | <0.1 per cent | 0.1–1 per cent | 1.1–10 per cent | 11–50 per cent | >50 per cent |

The overall ***level of risk*** is then calculated by multiplying the two scores together.

**Risk Level = Consequence / Severity x Likelihood (C x L)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Likelihood** | | | | |
| **Likelihood score** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** |
|  | **Rare** | **Unlikely** | **Possible** | **Likely** | **Almost certain** |
| **5 Catastrophic** | 5 | 10 | 15 | 20 | 25 |
| **4 Major** | 4 | 8 | 12 | 16 | 20 |
| **3 Moderate** | 3 | 6 | 9 | 12 | 15 |
| **2 Minor** | 2 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 10 |
| **1 Negligible** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

The Initial Risk Rating is the level of risk before control measures have been applied or with current control measures in place.

The Residual Risk is the level of risk after further control measures are put in place.