GENERAL HEALTH AND SAFETY RISK ASSESSMENT FORM

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Site | **Baylab Workshops** | **Department** | **Chemical Engineering** | **Version / Ref No.** | **Bay Labs Covid-V06** |
| **Activity Location** | **Baylab Workshops, Building 1240** | **Activity Description** | **Return to Campus COVID-19: Building Risk Assessment****Total of 40 persons including staff, postgraduate students, contractors, cleaners etc**  |
| **Assessor** | **Jacqueline Deans** | **Assessment Date** | **22/9/2020** | **Date of Assessment Review** | **01/11/2020** |
| **Academic / Manager Name** | **Emma Melia** | **Academic / Manager Signature** |  |

| Hazard Assessment | Control Assessment | Actions |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Hazard Category | Hazards Identified | Who might be harmed?StaffStudentsContractors 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 |
| S | L | R | S | L | R |
| Organisational | Psychological well being | Staff and Students | Anxiety and stress caused by concerns around returning to work and studies on Campus | Regular communication is in place (individual and group) via weekly Head of School briefings, School Committee, School Health and Safety Committee and team meetings and 1-to-1 meetings which are normally held on zoom or skypeto ensure staff and students are not ill-informed about returning to work/ study 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 weekly Head of School briefings and staff mailing lists. Notes of meetings will be available from the School CEN-StaffShared network drive and the University’s Coronavirus FAQs [click here](https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/coronavirus/faqs-for-staff.aspx).  An electronic copy of this general risk assessment can also be found in the CEN-StaffShared network drive Risk assessment shared and an electronic copy is available on the CEN-StaffShared network drive in the folder Health and Safety Documents. 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 one to one meetings. These include:* ***Social distancing: General guidance for staff and students***
* ***Social distancing: Buildings adaptations guidance***
* ***Social distancing***: ***Product solutions booklet***
* ***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* (This completed 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 the building induction, Head of School staff meetings, *one to one meetings and health and safety committees)* of 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 | 3 | 9 | Yes |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Organisational | Psychological well being | Staff and Students | Anxiety and stress caused by concerns around returning to work on Campus | Managers hold regular informal discussions with their staff via one to one meetings either in person or via online Teams, Skype or Zoom with their team and look at ways to reduce causes of stress. Concerns on workload issues or support needs are escalated to line manager as and when managers are informed and issues are escalated to Head of Operations or Head of School as appropriate.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 who are in the clinically extremely vulnerable group may be at high risk of serious illness if they catch coronavirus (COVID-19) must discuss their support needs with their line manager to ensure a specific individual risk assessment is carried out and additional measures are put in place to protect them including continuing to work from home.<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>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 invited to return back to work on Campus who have concerns have discussed these with their line manager or supervisor using the University’s Covid-19 Return to Campus Discussion Form 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 | 3 | 9 | Yes |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Biological | Virus transmission in the workplace | Staff and Students | Exposure to respiratory droplets carrying COVID-19 from an infectious individual transmitted via sneezing, coughing or speaking. | ***Social distancing: Biochemical Engineering Building checklist***has been completed to identify the control measures to consider reducing the risk of workplace infections.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 ensure staff and students with any form of illness do not attend work until the illness has been verified as not being Covid-19. Managers/supervisors keep track of when staff and students can return to work after the symptom free period. 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 returning to work in University 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 e.g., arranging work to be completed out of hours or at weekends. Where this is not possible, room timetables are arranged so that room capacity is never exceeded. Un-essential trips within buildings and sites discouraged and reduced, e.g. access to some areas restricted, use of radios or telephones encouraged ensuring cleaning them between uses. | 4 | 2 | 8 | Yes |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Environmental | Virus transmission in the workplace due to lack of social distancing  | Staff and Students | Exposure to respiratory droplets carrying COVID-19 from an infectious individual transmitted via sneezing, coughing or speaking. | Workplace routines changed to ensure room/building capacity calculated to maintain social distancing is not exceeded including: * Change to peak staff entry and exit times. Building opening hours are increased to prevent build-up of staff arriving at same time, those using public transport have been advised to avoid travelling at peak times*.*
* Changes to core working hours. Building opening hours are increased to allow a two shift pattern to reduce the number of people in the building at any time.
* Amended shift routines, staff handovers and team briefings. Team briefings are mostly online. Some labs and offices are timetabling staff rotas which are available online.
* Arrival and departure times at work have been staggered to reduce crowding into and out of the workplace, taking account of the impact on those with protected characteristics.
* Staff have been separated into teams to reduce contact between employees. In shared offices, technical and office staff have been split into bubbles to reduce the room occupants and ensure that if one bubble became ill, the second bubble would provide cover.
* Fixed teams or adjusted booking processes in use to reduce the number of people in a lab at the same time to avoid overcrowding. Lab occupancy controlled by research groups, mainly by spreadsheet timetables.

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 is kept for 21 days.Procedure in place for dealing with instance of unexpected visitors e.g., refused entry and told to make an appointment so a building induction can be arranged.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 ***Social distancing: Biochemical Engineering Building checklist***(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)). One-way flow systems implemented and visual aids, such as floor strips, signage are used for maintaining social distancing two metres distance throughout the building/workplace.Staff activities are segregated to promote the 2m or 1m+ social distancing rules including: * Offices arranged in checkerboard formation so no person is sitting side by side with or facing a colleague. Staff arranged in groups and only allowed in on alternate days to accommodate two bubble groups. Display Screen Equipment (DSE) assessments reviewed and revised.
* 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 achieved have been set and displayed in shared rooms e.g. on offices, teaching spaces and laboratories.
* Staff encouraged to remain on-site including bringing their own lunch and, when not possible, maintaining social distancing while off-site.
* Where available safe outside areas used for break.
* 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 or tables and to wash their hand 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). Additional signage has been placed on facilities doors 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.
* Clear method of socially distancing of staff and visitors in reception areas defined and implemented including:
* 2m Social distancing in waiting and reception areas
* Visitors asked to email for an appointment in advance so building induction can be arranged

Visits from people outside of the building are managed via remote connection/working where this is an option. Where this is not an option including engineer visits to repair or set up new equipment, visitor arrangements have been revised to ensure social distancing and hygiene at all times. These measures are monitored by the local supervising staff member- School Technical Managerand where necessary concerns fed back to the third party manager.All corridors are :* Marked in areas to ensure social distancing is adhered to (lines on floor).
* Have a one way system around the building.
* Corridors that are over 2 m wide have a two way system of use, people using the corridor must stay to their left.

Additional signage in corridors reminding staff about social distancing.Social gathering amongst employees have been discouraged whilst at work including meetings where alternative arrangements have been provided e.g. virtual meetings. Large gatherings have been cancelled or postponed or alternative IT solutions provided including Zoom, Skype or Microsoft Teams online meetings. (Critical Training courses may still be performed but only following the Covid-19 guidance.)Managers perform frequent evaluation against social distances controls and remind individuals where instances are observed or reported of non-compliance, providing additional training where necessary. Staff are reminded constantly through email communication, posters and signage on a daily basis 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.Where the 2m social distancing guidelines cannot be followed in full in relation to a particular activity, for example training of users on laboratory equipment,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 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.
* PPE consisting of face masks and/or a clear visor that covers the face, and provides a barrier between the wearer and others, provided for staff 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). Re-usable visors are cleaned and sanitised regularly using normal cleaning products.
* Individuals (including staff, students, visitors and contractors), unless exempt, are required to wear face coverings, inside University buildings where 2m social distancing isn’t possible and cannot be maintained. 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 (including staff, students, visitors and contractors), unless exempt, are required to wear face coverings, in enclosed public spaces where 2m social distancing isn’t possible or where people come into contact with others they would not normally meet. 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 in specific areas within the building.
* 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.

Individuals have been reminded through induction and on signage throughout the building 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

PPE is provided for first aiders. The taking of PPE home is not permitted.Adequate training has been made on what PPE is required (i.e. gloves, masks, aprons, Filtering Face Pieces (P3), goggles, 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) has been utilised for examples in best practice for putting on and taking off (donning and doffing).  | 4 | 2 | 8 | Yes |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Biological  | Suspected case of COVID-19  | Staff and 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)
* Provision and monitoring of adequate supplies of cleaning materials are in place.
* Team briefed during induction and via email communication both within the School and via University emails 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 Outbreak Management Process.
* 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> | 4 | 2 | 8 | Yes |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Biological | Someone entering the workplace with COVID-19 | Staff and Students | 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. 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 and University’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> | 4 | 2 | 8 | Yes |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Environmental | Virus transmission in the workplace | Staff and Students | 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 through posters displayed throughout the buildingto 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/>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 for example office, outside lifts, laboratories, welfare 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.To help reduce the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) individuals are reminded during induction of 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, cleaning products and disposable cloths have been made available to all occupants and everyone has been briefed during inductionon the importance of keeping surfaces and work equipment clean. Staff have been advised by email to limit the use of photocopiers and printers to prevent exposure to coronavirus and to reduce costs.Sharing of equipment is restricted where possible. Additional time should be added to equipment bookings to account for time spent cleaning items before and after use. Objects and surfaces that are touched regularly are cleaned frequently using alcohol based wipes 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. Use of hot desks avoided. Workstations are cleaned by desk occupant and alcohol wipes have been provided. 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.Areas where people directly pass things to each other, for example office supplies, have been identified and ways to remove direct contact, such as using drop-off points or transfer zones have been introduced.Everyone is encouraged during induction 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. Lab clothing and equipment such as goggles washed on-site rather than by individual staff members at home. Individuals are responsible for daily cleaning of their safety goggles, Lab coat cleaning has been arranged in-house and coats are left for 72 hours before washing.Monitoring and supervision arrangements including unannounced building walk-around by the Head of School, Head of Operations and Technical Manager 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). All university staff are encouraged to avoid direct personal contact with others i.e. shaking hands etc. | 4 | 2 | 8 | Yes |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Organisational  | Exposure to Existing Hazards | Staff and Students | 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 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 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. Storage has been reviewed to provide individual storage arrangements. The taking of PPE home is not permitted.Emergency Procedures reviewed and revised including:* **Communication**: people have been made aware during induction 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 and that they should leave the building by the nearest exit and that this may be against the normal one-way flow of the building.
* **Fire procedures:** number and details of nominated fire warden(s) in place, fire muster point confirmed.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 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.

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 School Health and Safety Coordinatorto 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, 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 in particular “speaking up” if they witness any unsafe behaviours, conditions or symptoms related to COVID-19. | 4 | 2 | 8 | Yes |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Environmental | Inbound & Outbound Goods including Post | Staff and 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 point for deliveries now revised to Engineering South stores.
* 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.
* Strict hand washing procedure in place after handling all deliveries.
* Where possible deliveries to remain isolated and untouched for a minimum of 48 hours.
 | 4 | 2 | 8 | Yes |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Environmental | Virus transmission outside of the workplace | Staff and Students | 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 individuals to wash their hands regularly and not to touch their face.There is one door for access and one door for egress and one way systems are inforce in the building. | 4 | 2 | 8 | Yes |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Organisational | Travelling to work | Staff and Students | Exposure to respiratory droplets carrying COVID-19. | 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> | 4 | 2 | 8 | Yes |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mechanical | Machinery & Equipment | Staff and 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. Alcohol wipes 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, cleaning will be carried out between operations by the equipment user. | 4 | 2 | 8 | Yes |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Environmental | Ventilation | Staff and Students | Exposure to respiratory droplets carrying COVID-19. | Recirculation of unfiltered air within the workplace has been avoided or reduced as far as possible.All ventilation has been serviced as required. All filters have been changed as required.Building users are encouraged where possible to ensure windows are open. | 4 | 2 | 8 | Yes |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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**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 |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **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 occurfor years | Expected to occurat least annually | Expected to occur atleast 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.