GENERAL HEALTH AND SAFETY RISK ASSESSMENT FORM

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| Site | **Metallurgy and Materials Building, G6** | **Department** | **Metallurgy and Materials** | | **Version / Ref No.** | **3** |
| **Activity Location** | **North Campus** | **Activity Description** | **Return to Campus COVID-19: Building Risk Assessment**  **This includes a full complement of staff (180) (teaching, professional services and research) and postgraduate students (200).** | | | |
| **Assessor** | **Irina Hoffman** | **Assessment Date** | **21/9/20** | **Date of Assessment Review** | **20/9/21; 08/10/2020** | |
| **Academic / Manager Name** | **Emma Melia** | **Academic / Manager Signature** |  | | | |

| Hazard Assessment | | | | Control Assessment | | | | | | | | | Actions | | |
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| 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 |
| S | L | R | S | L | R |
| Organisational | Psychological well being | Staff  Students  Contractors  Visitors | Anxiety and stress caused by concerns around returning to work and studies on Campus | Regular communication is in place (individual and group) via team meeting, one to one meetings, health and safety committees/forums, social mediato 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 team meeting, one to one meetings, health and safety committees/forums (identify what communication is being used) and the University’s Coronavirus FAQs [click here](https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/coronavirus/faqs-for-staff.aspx).  Risk assessment shared with staff and an electronic copy is available on Canvas.  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, personal tutors and Canvas. 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 induction, team meeting, and one to one meetings*,* 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 | 2 | 6 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Organisational | Psychological well being | Staff  Students  Contractors  Visitors | Anxiety and stress caused by concerns around returning to work on Campus | Managers hold regular informal discussions on Zoom/Skype with their team and look at ways to reduce causes of stress.  Concerns on workload issues or support needs are escalated to line manager through one to one meetings as needed.  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 | 2 | 6 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Biological | Virus transmission in the workplace | Staff  Students  Visitors  Contractors | Exposure to respiratory droplets carrying COVID-19 from an infectious individual transmitted via sneezing, coughing or speaking. | ***Social distancing: Metallurgy and Materials 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 and all contractors and visitors will be approved and registered by the Technical Manager or delegate.  Un-essential trips within buildings and sites discouraged and reduced, e.g. staff are asked to remain within their allocated zone. | 4 | 2 | 8 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Environmental | Virus transmission in the workplace due to lack of social distancing | Staff  Students  Contractors  Visitors | 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. Defined and monitored by the Academic zone lead. * 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 moved in offices to form bubbles based on research groups and lab work to minimize contact to other members of staff * Fixed teams or adjusted booking processes in use to reduce the number of people in a lab at the same time to avoid overcrowding.   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: Metallurgy and Materials 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)).  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 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 social distancing rules including:   * Work stations moved or staff relocated. Provision of additional screens where needed to segregate people. Desks are arranged with employees facing in opposite directions. 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. open plan offices, meeting rooms, seminar rooms and laboratories. * Capacity limits have been set for common facility areas (e.g. toilets, welfare areas etc.) * 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 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. Larger kitchens have floor marking to ensure social distancing. All users are encouraged to wash their hands prior to using equipment (kettle) and to wash their hand after use. Additional signage for the correct method for handwashing displayed. All drinking water fountains have been taken out of use * 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   Clear method of socially distancing of staff and visitors in reception areas defined and implemented including:   * Queuing systems or processes * |Face coverings are mandatory in all common areas (eg toilets, staircases etc) unless one is exempt from wearing a face mask (the University signed up for the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Scheme) * Electronic visitor management system in place out of term hours.   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 contractors, Estates etc. visitor arrangements have been revised to ensure social distancing and hygiene at all times. These measures are monitored by the Technical Manager or delegate and where necessary concerns fed back to the third party manager e.g. LEV inspections and test – Estates Manager, Cleaner – Campus Services Domestic 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.  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 1 and social distance marked on the floor. Once users have left the lift posters are displayed to encourage them to wash their hands and avoid touching their face.  Lifts are still to be used to move heavier / larger / hazardous goods as a planned operation ensuring the lift cannot be stopped on each floor or staff placed on each floor to prevent access to lift until equipment moved.  There are designated stairwell for going up and a designated stairwell for coming down, this system will be enforced.  The stairwells in the building are one way and are signed appropriately. (Up in B/C and down in A/D)  Additional signage in stairwells reminding staff about social distancing.  Wash hand / use hand sanitiser on exit from stairwell.  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 such as Zoom (Critical Training courses may still be performed but only following the Covid-19 guidance.)  Large gatherings including events in public outdoor spaces that are organised by the University that are unable to be provided by alternative IT solutions are only permitted with reasonable steps to mitigate the risk of transmission and in line with COVID-19 Secure guidance including the completion of a specific risk assessment.  <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19>  Managers perform frequent evaluation against social distances controls through walk-arounds and observation.Staff are reminded through the signageon 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, such an manual handling of loads 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. * Use of face coverings and gloves when appropriate * 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 * 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 can not 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.   The 2m social distancing guidelines cannot be followed in full when moving around the building and in communal areas, such as along corridors, entrance areas, stairwells, toilets and entering and leaving teaching spaces etc.   * Face coverings are mandated in these areas * Contact time to be minimised by not waiting in these areas   Face coverings are not PPE and are not required to be worn in the offices and labs where 2m social distancing can be maintained. However where people choose to wear them managers support them.  Individuals have been reminded through signage and communications 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   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.  PPE is provided for individuals working in clinical settings, like a hospital, or other close contact roles for example, Occupational Health clinical services and 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> | 4 | 2 | 8 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Biological | Suspected case of COVID-19 | Staff  Students  Contractors  Visitors | 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. Managers will follow the University Guideline on Test and Trace: https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/coronavirus/test-and-trace.aspx * 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. * Staff must tell the University through the Test and Trace system : <https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/coronavirus/test-and-trace.aspx> if they test positive for Corona virus 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 * 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 the University trace system or the 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 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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.  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> | 4 | 2 | 8 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Environmental | 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. | Individuals have been instructed and are regularly reminded through signageto 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 and walkways  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 high 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.  To help reduce the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) individuals are reminded in signage 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 in the building inductionon the importance of keeping surfaces and work equipment clean.  Sharing of equipment is restricted where possible and cleaned / disinfected before and after use.  Objects and surfaces that are touched regularly are cleaned frequently using wipes and spray cleaner 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 and spaces avoided and, where not possible e.g. training facilities, machinery controls, workstations are cleaned by the usersbetween different occupants including shared equipment.  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 in the 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.  Staff have been encouraged to bring their own food and kitchen utensils including mugs/cups, cutlery etc.  Lab clothing and equipment such as goggles washed on-site rather than by individual staff members at home. This is covered in the laboratory inductions.  Monitoring and supervision arrangements through senior management walk aroundshave 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 and students are encouraged to avoid direct personal contact with others i.e. shaking hands etc. | 4 | 2 | 8 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Organisational | Exposure to Existing Hazards | Staff  Students  Contractors  Visitors | 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 in the building 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. * **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 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 the Technical Manager or delegateto 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. | 3 | 2 | 6 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Environmental | Inbound & Outbound Goods including Post | Staff  Students  Contractors  Visitors | 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. * Unnecessary contact at delivery bay has been minimised e.g. non-contact deliveries where the nature of the product allows for use of electronic pre-booking. * Methods to reduce frequency of deliveries in place - ordering larger quantities less often. * Where possible and safe, single workers load or unload vehicles or if not possible the same pairs of people are used for loads where more than one is needed. * Electronic paperwork is used where possible, and procedures reviewed to enable safe exchange of paper copies where needed, for example, required transport documents. * 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. * Where possible deliveries to remain isolated and untouched for a minimum of 48 hours. | 4 | 2 | 8 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Environmental | Virus transmission outside of the workplace | Staff  Students  Contractors  Visitors | 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.  One way systems are in force in the building.  Building access control is used outside of teaching times*.* | 4 | 2 | 8 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Organisational | Travelling to work | Staff  Students  Contractors  Visitors | Exposure to respiratory droplets carrying COVID-19. | 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. | 4 | 2 | 8 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Organisational | Driving at work | Staff  Students  Contractors  Visitors | Exposure to respiratory droplets carrying and contact with an object that has been contaminated with COVID-19. | Non-essential travel is minimised – remote options considered first.  Staff roles that are required to car share have been considered and whether this could continue. Alternative solutions to two-person delivery have been put in place including delayed delivery of large items or using an alternative method, for example, mechanical / material handling equipment.  Where these are not possible the number of people travelling together in any one vehicle is minimised, using fixed travel partners, vehicles are well ventilated to increase the flow of air via open windows and occupants sit side by side and sitting face-to-face is avoided.  Job and location rotation has been reduced.  Journeys have been scheduled and delivery/collection times to reduce contact with others.  Staff are encouraged to wash hands before boarding vehicles. | 4 | 2 | 8 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mechanical | Machinery & Equipment | Staff  Students  Contractors  Visitors | 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.  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 equipment operator. | 4 | 2 | 8 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Environmental | Ventilation | Staff  Students  Contractors  Visitors | 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. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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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 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.