



Equality Impact Assessment– School Reopening (Pupils and Staff)

September 20

This Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) is used to assist us to ensure we meet our duties under the Equality Act 2010 to take account of the needs and impacts of the proposal or function in relation to people with protected characteristics. Please note, this is an ongoing duty. This means we will keep this EqIA under review and update it as necessary to ensure its continued effectiveness.

To demonstrate having 'due regard' for the Equalities Act (2010) and the Public Sector Equality Duty Section 149, when making significant decisions that include policies, processes and/or guidance it is crucial that St Oswald's Catholic Primary School considers the needs and implications for those people with protected characteristics.

The EqIA has been completed to identify the potential adverse effects of the significant decision, in this case school re-opening on pupils and staff with protected characteristics. There are nine protected characteristics under the Equalities Act (2010) that include age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, marriage and civil partnership, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity and sex.

We are mindful of the emerging data and evidence of the disproportionate adverse effects of COVID-19 on people with protected characteristics specifically Gender, Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic (BAME) people, LGBTQ+ people, Disabled People and Older People. These impacts must be born in mind when making the decision for the wider re-opening of schools.

The Equality Impact Assessments refer to a number of COVID-19 Individual and Workforce Risk Assessments.

Guidance used in assessment of Impact and identification of Reasonable Adjustments:

- Risk Reduction Framework for NHS Staff at risk of COVID-19 infection <https://www.fom.ac.uk/covid-19/update-risk-reduction-framework-for-nhs-staff-at-risk-of-covid-19-infection>
- Guidance on shielding and protecting people who are clinically extremely vulnerable from COVID-19 <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>
- People at higher risk from coronavirus <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/people-at-higher-risk/>
- Advice on social distancing <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/social-distancing/what-you-need-to-do/>

Documents to support the completion of the EqlA are listed below:

- SEND / Vulnerable Pupil risks assessment (protocol / risk assessment)
- Individual staff risk assessment