



COVID RISK ASSESSMENT

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This document is a supplementary Risk Assessment to complement the main Risk Assessment document and procedures provided on the Blue Stamp Travel website on the [Teacher Resources](#) page.

Date of Risk Assessment: 01/03/2024 Date of Review: 01/03/2025 Assessor: Steve Manderson

The following risk assessment should be considered in conjunction with the Safety Management System that is in place to prevent risk to students, employers, school staff, language school staff, suppliers, agents of and employees of Blue Stamp Travel.

The information provided herein is provided as an illustration of steps that are taken to ensure high levels of care of people in our charge or working for or with Blue Stamp Travel. **It does not remove the responsibility of any party working for or with Blue Stamp Travel from taking necessary steps to keep themselves and others safe or reduce risk of injury or accident.**

Schools using this document should be advised that this is not intended to replace school risk assessment processes and procedures but to support them. Factors specific to schools, their students or staff should be considered in addition to the risk assessment provided.

Blue Stamp Travel recognise that it is not possible to identify in advance every conceivable risk or situation that may arise as part of a trip and as such encourage dynamic risk assessment by Group Leaders and teachers as part of practical and safe delivery of a trip.

This document is provided in good faith and should be read in this context. If any further clarification is required please contact Enquiries@Bluestamptravel.com.

Codes:
N= No significant risk
L = Low Risk
M=Moderate Risk - some action needed
H=High Risk in need of control measures or elimination

Signed:  **Title:** Managing Director **Date:** 01/03/24



<i>Who is at risk</i>	<i>When / Activity</i>	<i>Risk</i>	<i>Actions to Mitigate Risk</i>	<i>Residual Risk Level</i>
<i>Students, Teachers, Group Leaders, Agents, Employers, Language School Staff</i>	<i>At All Times</i>	<i>Illness, Death</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>See below</i> 	<i>Low</i>

PREVENTION

- Blue Stamp will only provide group travel to destinations that are deemed safe to travel to by the FCDO.
- Prior to travel all travellers (students and teachers) are *encouraged* to have had Covid vaccinations available to them. We recognise that not all travellers will choose to take advantage of vaccination and in the case of school group trips, school policy on vaccination will determine whether a student is able to travel on the trip or not. On Mixed School Work Experience Abroad trips Blue Stamp Travel will strongly recommend that vaccinations are taken but we do not discriminate on taking students based on their vaccination status as long as the restrictions of any country are adhered to on entry. At the time of writing there are no restrictions on entry based on vaccine status.
- Group Leaders are encouraged to have had vaccination to travel with a group.
- Local and international requirements around travel will be adhered to in order that the spread of Coronavirus is minimised. This includes but is not limited to: testing prior to travel if symptoms are present (as is the current guidance at the time of writing this policy), wearing of face-coverings in locations as specified by local legislation and guidance, use of hand sanitiser and good hand hygiene.
- Guidance from travel operators will be strictly adhered to.



IN THE EVENT OF A CASE OF CORONAVIRUS

In all instances of contracting Covid, the local medical authorities will be informed in line with local policy, and advice will be taken on the appropriate actions to take. Since the recommendations and requirements are both regional and time specific, it is not possible to document further specific actions that will be taken in the event of a traveller contracting Covid. However, Blue Stamp Travel remain committed to the welfare of all students, teachers and accompanying staff as well as host families and those based at partner language schools and as such will act with this at the forefront of any decisions made around managing Covid including cases where Covid is contracted during travel.

At all stages, parents of students under the age of 18 will be kept informed and consulted on actions to be taken, as appropriate.

In the event of a positive case of Covid being detected, it may be required for other travellers to be tested. We request cooperation in carrying out test if asked to do so.

Group Leader

If a Group Leader contracts Covid, a replacement will be sent out to meet the group at the earliest possible opportunity. It is possible that there may be a delay in the arrival of the Group Leader and if this is the case, local support will be provided as required by Host Families and/or local partner language school agents.

The Group Leader would serve any isolation period as determined by local legislation and if necessary, return travel would be delayed.

Teacher

If an accompanying teacher contracts Covid, the school will be informed. Blue Stamp will assist the school in their arrangements to replace a teacher if this is deemed necessary.

The teacher would serve any isolation period as determined by local legislation.

Return travel may be delayed.



Students

If a student contracts Covid, parents/carers and the school (if part of a school trip) will be informed.

The student(s) would serve isolation as required by local legislation. Return travel may be delayed if necessary. Accommodation will be extended by the host families or hotel as necessary (at the cost to the traveller – insurance cover is in place if taken via Blue Stamp Travel.)

If the student is an isolated case, the parents of the student or another appropriate adult would be offered travel and accommodation to support the individual with isolation as necessary, and return travel.

If a group of students contract Covid, a Group Leader would be arranged to support with isolation as necessary and return travel. The remainder of the party may travel back to the UK as planned dependent on the results of testing.



Host Family

If a member of a host family contracts Covid during the stay of a student, the student would be tested for Covid. Dependent on the local legislation at the time of travel, the student may be required to isolate within the host accommodation or may be permitted to move to a new accommodation; hotel or host family depending on availability. (This may depend on the student vaccine status at the time.)

If a student is required to stay longer due to isolation of a host, costs of returning to the UK will need to be paid. An insurance claim may be submitted to cover additional costs incurred and for any lost benefits during the trip.