*Institute for Research in Schools*Worksheet KS3.2

Save Green Plains from the virus!

You are the City Leader of Green Plains, a large city in the UK. A disease has arrived in your city, and you must make decisions on how to manage it. You have a small team to work with, and an information sheet.

The effect of certain decisions on the R-number can be found in the table below.

You must decide what to do, then communicate this with your loyal citizens.

Good luck!

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| **Action** | **Effect on the R-value**  (These numbers are indicative only, not true figures.) | **Notes** |
| Enforce social distancing | -0.5 | People will do this for a while but how will you make sure people don’t get too lonely? |
| Make hand washing compulsory 4 times a day | -0.4 | No problem |
| Make everyone wear a face mask | -0.4 | Some people can’t wear one. How will you manage this? |
| Close airports | -0.2 | Nobody can go on holiday. This makes people sad. |
| Close public transport | -o.6 | How will people get to work and school? |
| Close all non-essential shops | -0.2 | This makes people less happy and not as much money is spent to support the economy. |
| Close all shops | -0.5 | What about people who don’t have food at home or need medicine? |
| Close Primary schools | -0.5 | If children are at home how can their parents and carers work? |
| Close Secondary Schools | -0.6 | What about students who cannot access remote learning? How will you help them? |
| Lockdown the population at home | -0.8 | Would slow down the spread of the virus around the city, but who would do the essential jobs? Which jobs are essential? |

* Things to think about

What do you need to get the R-value to in order to stop the spread of the disease?

How will you explain what an R-value is to your loyal subjects?

**Here’s the snag: You will throw a virtual dice (choose a dice with 4 faces) to find out what the R-rate of the virus is in the city.**

**Your city’s R-rate is:**

What is your plan?

How will you explain this to your loyal subjects? Put the key points down here.

Write your radio or TV advert. It should be about 2 minutes long. You should explain why you are having to take the measures you are, and how it will help to contain the virus.

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| Marking criteria | Marks available |
| Clear explanation of R-number and why it is important | 1-5 |
| Explanation of how population can change the R-number | 1-5 |
| Strategies proposed to reduce the R-number | 1-10 |
| Good ideas put in place to minimise the impact on citizens | 1-5 |