



Covid Policy

Koala Community Hub is committed to providing a safe environment for young people, adults and volunteers. We also recognise that many of the families and individuals we work with have additional health needs or are 'vulnerable' medically. For this reason we will ensure that the policy below is in place. This policy is to be read in conjunction with NYA's Covid Guidance, which is updated regularly in line with government guidelines. https://s3.eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/assets.nya2.joltrouter.net/wp-content/uploads/20210903145354/1163-NYA-COVID-19-Guidance-3_9_21-P2.pdf

Important: while those who have been double vaccinated no longer have to isolate, if a member of your household tests positive, we ask that you **DO NOT attend a group. We have a number of medically vulnerable people who attend our groups and it is our responsibility to safeguard them at all times.**

General procedures:

- A risk assessment, specific to Covid, will be carried out on a quarterly basis and retained by the Head of Operations
- This assessment will include cleaning procedures and attendee expectations at each group – the risk assessment will not be published but will be available for review if requested (and a copy kept at the Bridge and with the Bridge Centre Manager).
- Attendees over 11 years of age **are expected to wear a mask**, unless exempt
- Where possible, all sessions will be well ventilated and windows opened (but not so as to create a risk for the young people attending the groups)
- Anyone showing signs of Covid will be asked to leave the session and not return for 10 days
- Whilst social distancing is no longer required, we would expect attendees to practice social distancing where possible
- Where possible, Koala will always retain in person groups as these are fundamental for the wellbeing of our community. Only as a very last resort (ie national lockdown) will we revert to online sessions
- All volunteers and lead staff will perform lateral flow tests on a twice-weekly basis
- All group bookings are made via Eventbrite so that attendees can be contacted if needed
- For those who are clinically vulnerable, the risk assessment will be adjusted so that they can attend a session safely.
- Due to the small sizes of our groups, we feel that we are currently 'covid-secure'. However, we may take the decision to reduce admission to groups if the number of Covid cases increase locally.



Exposure to Covid Procedures:

- We expect an attendee to tell Koala, immediately, if they test positive for Covid (whether via a PCR or lateral flow test). They will be encouraged to contact Track and Trace <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-test-and-trace-how-itworks>
- The Head of Operations will then contact all attendees who attended that group (and subsequent groups where the Head of Operations was present) and inform them (without naming the person who had tested positive) that they have potentially been exposed to Covid. A link to government guidelines will be sent to them and they will be advised that they should seek a PCR test if they have been indoor, for more than 15 minutes, with the infected individual.
- All groups will be cancelled for 10 days proceeding the initial exposure. This follows NYA and Adult Safeguarding guidance and, in effect, self-isolates Koala groups.
- All attendees for cancelled groups will be informed via Eventbrite that their session has been cancelled and return donations, where applicable.

Policy Name	Covid Policy
Version Number	V2
This policy was developed by	Head of Operations
These people were consulted/ involved in developing the policy	Trustee in Charge of Health and Safety
This Policy was adopted by	Trustee Board
Date	07.01.22
Signed (Chair of Trustees)	