



COVID-19

Reopening Leisure Centres and Indoor Gyms



## **COVID-19 Specific – Leisure Centres and Indoor Gyms**

COVID-19 is a new illness that can affect your lungs and airways and is caused by a virus called Coronavirus. The symptoms can be mild, moderate, severe, or fatal.

This is a draft copy of a generic Risk Assessment for dealing with COVID-19. It is not likely to cover all scenarios and each council should consider their
own unique circumstances.

Name of Assessor:		
Assessment Date:		
Review Date:		



What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed	Controls Required	Additional Controls	Action by who?	Action by when?	Done
Spread of COVID-19 (Coronavirus)	<ul> <li>Staff</li> <li>Visitors to your premises</li> <li>Cleaners</li> <li>Contractors</li> <li>Vulnerable groups         <ul> <li>Elderly, pregnant workers, those with existing underlying health conditions</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Authority to open Check the Government website for the latest guidance:  https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19/providers-of-grassroots-sport-and-gymleisure-facilities#section-4-1  Hand washing  Hand washing facilities with soap	Review website at least once a week.  Employees to be reminded on a regular			
		<ul> <li>and water in place.</li> <li>Stringent hand washing taking place.</li> <li>See hand washing guidance.</li> <li><a href="https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/best-way-to-wash-your-hands/">https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/best-way-to-wash-your-hands/</a></li> <li>Drying of hands with disposable paper towels.</li> <li><a href="https://www.nursingtimes.net/news/research-and-innovation/paper-towels-much-more-effective-at-removing-more-effective-at-removing-">https://www.nursingtimes.net/news/research-and-innovation/paper-towels-much-more-effective-at-removing-</a></li> </ul>	basis to wash their hands for 20 seconds with water and soap and the importance of proper drying with disposable towels. Also 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. Tissues will be made available throughout the workplace.  To help reduce the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19), remind everyone of the public health advice:  https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/news/covid-19-coronavirus			



viruses-than-hand-dryers-17-04- 2020/  https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/e mollients/  Gel sanitisers in any area where washing facilities are not readily available	Posters, leaflets and other materials are available for display.  https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19	
Cleaning Frequently cleaning and disinfecting objects and surfaces that are touched regularly, particularly in areas of high use (such as door handles, light switches and the reception area) using appropriate cleaning products and methods.	Rigorous checks will be carried out by management to ensure that the necessary procedures are being followed.	
Social distancing Reducing the number of persons in any work area to comply with the 2 metre/1+ gap recommended by the Public Health Agency: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-and-for-vulnerable-people  Taking steps to review work schedules including start & finish times/shift patterns, working from home etc. to reduce number of workers on site at any	Staff to be reminded on a daily basis of the importance of social distancing both in the workplace and outside of it.  Management checks to ensure this is adhered to.  Keeping the activity time involved as short as possible.  Using screens or barriers to separate people from each other.	



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	one time. Also relocating workers to other	Using back-to-back or side-to-side working		
	tasks.	(rather than face-to-face) whenever		
		possible.		
	Redesigning processes to ensure social			
	distancing is in place.	Reducing the number of people each		
	distancing is in place.	person has contact with by using 'fixed		
1		, ,		
1	Ensuring sufficient rest breaks for staff.	teams or partnering' (so each person works		
1		with only a few others).		
1	Social distancing also to be adhered to in			
1	canteen area and smoking area.			
	Wassing of DD5			
1	Wearing of PPE			
1	Where Risk Assessment identifies wearing	Staff to be reminded that wearing PPE is		
1	of gloves and/or masks as a requirement	not a substitute for good hand washing.		
1	of the job, an adequate supply of these			
1	will be provided. Staff will be instructed on			
1	how to remove PPE carefully to reduce			
1	-			
1	contamination and how to dispose of			
1	them safely.			
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	Symptoms of COVID-19			
	If anyone becomes unwell with a new	Internal communication channels and		
	1 '			
	continuous cough or a high temperature in	cascading of messages through		
	the workplace they will be sent home and	management will be carried out regularly		
	advised to follow the stay at home	to reassure and support employees in a fast		
	guidance.	changing situation.		
	Line managers will maintain regular			
	_			
	contact with staff members during this			
	time.			



	If advised that a member of staff or public has developed COVID-19 and were recently on the premises (including where a member of staff has visited other work place premises), the management team of the workplace will contact the Public Health Authority to discuss the case, identify people who have been in contact with them and will take advice on any actions or precautions that should be taken.	Management will offer support to staff who are affected by COVID-19 or have a family member affected.	
	Mental health  Management will promote mental health & wellbeing awareness to staff during the COVID-19 outbreak and will offer whatever support they can to help. Reference - https://www.mind.org.uk/information- support/coronavirus-and-your-wellbeing/	Regular communication of mental health information and an open door policy for those who need additional support.	
	Moving around Objective: To have workers/volunteers and customers maintain social distancing as far as possible while people travel through the sports or gym/leisure facility.	Reducing movement by discouraging non- essential trips within buildings and venues, for example, restricting access to some areas, encouraging use of radios or telephones, where permitted. These items require cleaning between users if used multiple times.	



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Visiting instructors, coaches, teachers and management Objective: To ensure safe practices for	Introducing more one-way flow through buildings. Providing floor markings and signage should remind both workers and customers to adhere to social distancing wherever possible.  Reducing maximum occupancy for lifts to a number that allows for social distancing, providing hand sanitiser for the operation of lifts and encouraging use of stairs wherever possible.  Making sure that people with disabilities are able to access lifts.	
visiting instructors and supervisors that rotate across sports venues and leisure	Regulating use of high traffic areas including corridors, lifts, turnstiles and walkways to maintain social distancing.	
facilities.	Considering limiting the number of classes that rotating instructors teach in order to	
	minimise exposure.	
	Determining the number of facilities they are comfortable with the instructors	



	rotating around, in order to minimise exposure and establishing a system for monitoring this.  Given the high risk of transmission from visiting instructors, where possible, establishing a private testing programme for rotating/visiting instructors.	
Ventilation of indoor gym and leisure centres  Ventilation is an important part of mitigating against the transmission of COVID-19. Ventilation into the building should be optimised to ensure a fresh air supply is provided to all areas of the facility and increased wherever possible. Particular attention should be given to areas where high intensity exercise activity takes place.	The maximum occupancy of each gym should be limited by providing a minimum of 100sqft per person. For this figure, the area is the net useable gym space available to members to use, including changing rooms, toilet and wash facilities. Reducing capacity in this way whilst sustaining ventilation flows, will increase the typical current 10l/s/p flow rate of ventilation to at least 20l/s/p, as fewer people are being served by the ventilation system.  Ventilation systems should provide 100% fresh air and not recirculate air from one space to another.  You should also consider:	



	<ul> <li>Increasing the existing ventilation rate by fully opening dampers and running fans on full speed</li> <li>Operating the ventilation system 24 hours a day</li> <li>Increase the frequency of filter changes</li> <li>Further guidance is provided in the CIBSE - COVID-19 Ventilation guidance</li> </ul>	
Keeping the workplace/facility clean Objective: To keep the workplace clean and prevent transmission by touching contaminated surfaces.	Maintaining good ventilation in the sport or gym/leisure facility. For example, opening windows and doors frequently, where possible.  Frequent cleaning of work areas and equipment including stationary gym equipment between uses - using your usual cleaning products.  Frequent cleaning of objects and surfaces that are touched regularly, including stationary gym equipment, free weights, mats, balls, etc.  Providing spray and cloths and instructions for users to wipe down each machine after use by users of stationary gym equipment.	



Whilst operators will wish to increase the frequency of normal or enhanced cleaning of touched surfaces, the only means of minimising contact transmission is cleaning of equipment after every user. Therefore, materials for self-cleaning of handles and rails after use (in line with normal practice) is essential and signage should emphasise to users that this is a duty to others as they dismount/disengage from equipment. **Changing rooms and showers** Changing rooms are an area of increased Taking steps to ensure that all water systems, for example showers and sinks, risk of transmission. It is important that social distancing is maintained in changing are safe to use after a prolonged facility rooms and showers, and that they are only shutdown to minimise the risk of legionella used if essential. All venues should and other diseases associated with water. encourage attendees to arrive at the facility in sports kit and where possible to Where shower and changing facilities are travel home to change/shower. Use of required, setting clear use and cleaning changing rooms and showering facilities guidance for showers, lockers and changing should be avoided where possible, rooms to ensure they are kept clean and although these must be available for clear of personal items and that social participants with disabilities or special distancing is achieved as much as possible. needs and are likely to be needed after Consider closing communal showers if swimming. If changing rooms are to be possible. used, users should use the facilities as quickly as possible. Introducing enhanced cleaning of all facilities regularly during the day and at the end of the day.



Encouraging participants and staff to
change and shower at home rather than in
changing rooms where possible i.e. easier
for the gym than for swimming where you
have to change.
In establishments where guests use shared
showers, consider cleaning more
frequently.
For additional reassurance, providing
cleaning materials and hand sanitiser for
customer use at touch points.
Providing additional signposting in these
areas to maintain social distancing.
Considering changes in policies to ensure
limited time is taken in changing areas,
especially during the changeover of group
activity to maintain social distancing.
Maintaining use of lockers where social
distancing can be maintained.
distancing can be maintained.

Any views or opinions expressed in this document are for guidance only and are not intended as a substitute for appropriate professional advice. We have taken all reasonable steps to ensure the information contained herein is accurate at the time of writing. In relation to any particular risk assessment issues, readers are advised to seek specific advice.

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