

Ambitious About Autism
Risk Assessment – Coronavirus (2019-NCov)
Risk Assessment for Whittington Supported Internship Base Room

Definitions

“AaA” means Ambitious About Autism and Ambitious About Autism Schools Trust.

Clarifications

The purpose of this Risk Assessment is to outline risks associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the actions AaA is taking to manage these risks, specifically for The Whittington Base Room. This particular risk assessment is to cover a specific AaA setting and is intended to cover any person entering that setting, regardless of whether they are a pupil, parent or guardian, member of staff, volunteer, partner, visitor or contractor.

Separate, more specific risk assessments have been drawn up for specific groups of staff, as well as pupils and learners. This risk assessment is different in the sense that it is intended to cover the access to and generally understood activities within particular setting or location.

AaA recognizes that some staff are classified as per the government guidance as being particularly vulnerable. Where appropriate and in accordance with government guidance, separate, individual risk assessment and subsequent adjustments will be made for these staff.

THIS RISK ASSESMENT MUST BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE GENERIC “SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STAFF” RISK ASSESMENT
(*Please see footnote on final page of this document)

1.0 Background

A coronavirus is a type of virus. As a group, coronaviruses are common across the world. Typical symptoms of coronavirus may include a fever and a cough that may progress to a severe pneumonia causing shortness of breath and breathing difficulties. The UK government is updating the official symptoms periodically, as more is learned about the disease.

Generally, coronavirus can cause more severe symptoms in people with weakened immune systems, older people, and those with long-term conditions like diabetes, cancer, and chronic lung disease.

Novel coronavirus (2019-nCov) is a new strain of coronavirus first identified in Wuhan City, China.

2.0 Latest Information

The links below provides the very latest information from the NHS and UK government websites.

NHS General COVID-19 Guidance

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/primary-care/about-covid-19/>

NHS COVID-19 Symptoms

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/community-social-care-ambulance/symptoms-of-covid-19-and-medical-advice/>

UK Government Guidance

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public?gclid=EAAlQobChMIurfsINay5wIVQbDtCh0VowIbEAAYASAAEgIPkPD_BwE

3.0 Risk Assessment

Activity / Area	Risk Identified	Persons at Risk	Control Measures (Mitigating actions and measures taken by AaA)
Old Nurses Home Main Entrance & Stairs	Risk of contracting COVID19 - Overcrowding in entrance area and stairs	All Whittington -based AAA Staff & Learners	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Staff and Learners are not currently active at The Whittington, so there is currently no risk whatsoever. When learners / staff return... 2) Risk Assess the return fully. 3) Manage entering and exiting the building in such a way as to not allow large groups to enter / leave and staff should only move within the building when stairs and corridors are free.
Base Room Based Work	Risk of contracting COVID19 from colleagues / others within the base room.	All Whittington -based AAA Staff & Learners	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Staff and Learners are not currently active at The Whittington, so there is currently no risk whatsoever. When learners / staff return... 2) Risk Assess the return fully. 3) Ensure general social distancing (maintaining 2m distance between people as per government guidelines), when possible. 4) Display up-to-date posters within the room encouraging social distancing. 5) Display up-to-date posters within the room encouraging regular and proper handwashing. 6) Use tape where possible and appropriate to demarcate zones to encourage and reinforce social distancing. 7) Physically, remove chairs to ensure adequate space is allowed between desks. 8) Provide antibacterial wipes within the room for users to wipe down desks and computers after use. 9) Use signage near the entrance to the room to reinforce the importance of social distancing. 10) Ensure strict and regular cleaning regime, with particular attention to surfaces and computer equipment.

Development of symptoms or contracting COVID19.	Risk of infecting colleagues / others with COVID19.	All staff / volunteers / visitors	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Guidance and procedures in place within AaA for staff to manage the onset of suspected symptoms, or indeed contracting COVID19. https://ambitiousaboutautism.sharepoint.com/sites/CoronaVirus/ 2) Guidance around testing for COVID19. https://ambitiousaboutautism.sharepoint.com/sites/CoronaVirus/SitePages/Coronavirus-testing.aspx
Working within the hospital space	Risk of contracting COVID19 from colleagues / others within the hospital.		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Staff and Learners are not currently active at The Whittington, so there is currently no risk whatsoever. When learners / staff return... 2) Risk Assess the return fully. 3) <i>The activity within the hospital is so specific to our learners that it falls outside of this risk assessment. Upon our learners resuming work within the hospital, the education based risk assessment MUST contain a section on COVID-19 specifically and ensure that this particular risk is specifically assessed, in addition to the risk already identified and assessed for the current work taking place.</i>
Development of negative mental health symptoms.	Risk of developing negative mental health symptoms associated with the COVID19 pandemic.	All staff working with pupils or learners.	PLEASE REFER TO THE GENERIC "SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STAFF" RISK ASSESMENT!
Staff may have questions around COVID-19 or AaA Management or procedures around COVID	Risk of staff not being able to find the information they require.	All staff working with pupils or learners.	PLEASE REFER TO THE GENERIC "SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STAFF" RISK ASSESMENT!

Additional, related Risk assessments.

Should parties outside of Ambitious About Autism or Ambitious About Autism School Trust require copies of additional Risk Assessments to which this Risk Assessment relates, please request this from Mark Dixon, Head of Property & IT, mdixon@ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk

END

Mark Dixon

Head of Property & IT

Version 1.1

Risk Assessment done: 26 May 2020 by Mark Dixon

Reviewed by AaA H&S Committee & AaA ELT

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