

The LookOut - Risk Assessment Method Statement - Covid-19 – 23.4.2021 V.4

1. This document was compiled using information from the government document <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19> and <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus/education-and-childcare> and The Royal Parks COVID-19 All Parks guidance v4. It will be updated as Government advice and guidance changes using the following guidance (23.2.2021):

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protective-measures-for-holiday-or-after-school-clubs-and-other-out-of-school-settings-for-children-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/protective-measures-for-out-of-school-settings-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

and

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

- 2.

The World Health Organisation has identified that COVID-19 is not an airborne virus. Respiratory infections can be transmitted through droplets of different sizes. According to current evidence, COVID-19 virus is primarily transmitted between people through respiratory droplets and contact routes including touch points. What this means in practice is, the droplets are of a weight that they will fall to the ground at around 1 metre, thus the 2-metre social distancing rule. They can remain on surfaces for some time depending on type of material. Therefore, the two main methods of preventing the spread of infection being hygiene measures and social distancing.

The LookOut is an educational facility located in an acre of enclosed grounds within Hyde Park. It is a self-contained building with classrooms, office space and toilets. It is immediately surrounded by educational gardens, terraces and an educational pond.

The LookOut fully meets the standards for Learning Outside the Classroom (LOtC) and has been awarded the LOtC Quality Badge.

Learning activities delivered to Students will be outside using The LookOut building only for toilets and bag drop. Activities shall be modified to encourage and support greater use of the wider park. This lowers the risk of Covid-19 transmission as the risk of transmission is reportedly lower (natural ventilation). Social distancing is easier to achieve in our large outdoor spaces. The virus survives for shorter periods of time outside the body in strong sunlight, partly due to exposure to UV.

Everyone at The LookOut shall ensure their own actions comply with current COVID-19 Government guidelines – social distancing, good hygiene/handwashing and cleaning areas used. A limit will be placed on the number of staff working at any one time at The LookOut.

There will be clear signage relating to movement around the site/building. This will be communicated to all staff and Students. Groups/bubbles may be restricted to specific parts or routes within and of the site/building.

3. Staff /Volunteer/ Visitor illness

- a. All staff, volunteers or Students will be requested not to attend TheLookOut if they have any symptoms of the virus. Any staff or visitor that displays symptoms will be supported to return home (as in the education settings guidance) and follow test, trace procedures.
- b. We will have appropriate first aid on site if they have to wait and we will clean any indoor areas according to government advice.
- c. Any employee in the 'Clinically extremely vulnerable' group and 'clinically vulnerable' group have guidance that they must follow. TRP will discuss this directly with each individual. If any employee is at 'moderate risk of infection', this would be discussed with the individual and control measures put in place. If their safety cannot be assured, they will be consulted with.
- d. Volunteers in the 'clinically extremely vulnerable group' and 'clinically vulnerable group' will not be able to attend The LookOut at this point,
- e. We will keep a record of attendance at The LookOut of volunteers and Students.

****If a member of our staff team tests positive for the virus, we will follow TRP protocols as required within the Covid 19 RA which is contacting anyone who has had close contact (face to face time for up to or more than 15 minutes)**

4. Visitor Welfare Facilities

- a. The LookOut has its own students' toilets. These are cleaned daily (or after use if split sessions – am/pm)
- b. Anti-viral sanitiser stations are located around the site. Clean hygiene procedures are promoted via clear signage
- c. Students encouraged to wash hands each time they enter/return to the building. Hand gels available at outdoor work stations.

5. School Group Visits

a. Students will be in small groups or “Bubbles” decided by schools following Government/DfE guidelines.

b. The LookOut staffing ratios will need to consider group size or “bubble”

Visiting groups will be asked to bring their own stationary (pens, pencils etc).

c. The use of face coverings is currently not recommended during teaching sessions, however, face coverings should be worn whilst inside The LookOut. Where school’s own policies require this, then TRP shall support this measure.

d. Social distancing measures where practicable will be adopted throughout to minimise close contact. Where impractical due to the nature of the activity it is important to reduce contact between people, maintain consistent group size and that they stay away from other people or groups.

e. Regular hand cleaning and hygiene measures (cleaning of surfaces, equipment) will be implemented.

f. Teachers will be responsible for ensuring that their students adhere to TRP staff instructions at all times.

g. The same Learning Officer will meet the group outside and guide them straight into The LookOut bag drop area/toilets and subsequently the outdoor area. Minimal time will be spent indoors. Indoor space will be well ventilated and movement will be via a one-way system to reduce congestion at possible pinch points.

h. In the event of inclement weather students will be permitted use of an internal classroom space.

i. All equipment required will be set out in advance of each session. Where appropriate sufficient equipment for one per student.

J. Hand-held equipment such as quadrats, pond dipping nets etc will be cleaned after every use (Learning Team will clean any equipment following use)

k. Breaks will be taken outside. Students will take home their rubbish. Students (and staff) will hand wash before and after breaks.

L. Students requiring the hoist for changing disabled children will be supported following social distance guidelines.