

Fordhall Farm Covid-19 Risk Assessment.

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

To keep up to date with official advice to workplaces in this fast changing situation we will monitor https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus on an ongoing basis.

Reviewed November 2020

Hazards to be managed.	Who might be harmed?	Controls Required	Additional Controls
Spread of Covid-19 Coronavirus Spread of virus via bodily fluids	Staff Volunteers and service users Visitors to your premises Cleaners Contractors Drivers Vulnerable groups – Elderly, Pregnant workers, those with existing underlying health conditions Anyone else who physically comes in contact with you in relation to your business	 Hand Washing Hand washing facilities with soap and water in place. Disposable hand towels provided. All hands should be washed on arrival to site, throughout the day especially before eating/drinking, and before leaving site. Stringent hand washing processes taking place. See hand washing guidance. https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/best-way-to-wash-your-hands/ Drying of hands always to be with disposable paper towels. https://www.nursingtimes.net/news/research-and-innovation/paper-towels-much-more-effective-at-removing-viruses-than-hand-dryers-17-04-2020/ All visitors/staff encouraged to protect the skin by applying emollient cream regularly https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/emollients/ Gel sanitisers in any area where washing facilities not readily available and supplementary at all doors/exits. Everyone should be encouraged not to touch their faces throughout the day. 	Employees/service users to be reminded on a regular basis to wash their hands for 20 seconds with water and soap and the importance of proper drying with disposable towels. Posters for correct handwashing procedures put above all hand wash sinks. 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. Furloughed/returning employees/volunteers/service users to have specific back to work communications regarding this. Encourage staff to report any problems and carry out skin checks as part of a skin surveillance programme https://www.hse.gov.uk/skin/professional/health-surveillance.htm



Spread of virus via surfaces

Cleaning

Frequently cleaning and disinfecting objects and surfaces that are touched regularly particularly in areas of high use such as door handles, light switches, specific tools, using appropriate cleaning/sanitising products and methods.

Additional cleaning procedures implanted in the yurts including rotation of high frequency touch items/soft furnishings.

Social Distancing

Social Distancing -Reducing the number of persons in any work area to comply with the 2-metre (6.5 foot) gap recommended by the Public Health Agency

https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/news/covid-19-coronavirus

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 one time. Also relocating workers to other tasks. Work bubbles instigated from October 2020 to help maintain services should people have to isolate.

Redesigning processes to ensure social distancing in place. Use of small areas will be restricted by numbers and frequency of use.

Conference calls to be used instead of face to face meetings with Board and suppliers as required.

To help reduce the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) reminding everyone of the public health advice - Posters, leaflets and other materials are displayed in relevant areas.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19

Internal communication channels and cascading of messages through line managers will be carried out regularly to reassure and support employees/volunteers in a fast changing situation.

Rigorous checks will be carried out by managers to ensure that the necessary cleaning procedures are being followed.

Track and Trace systems in place (when hospitability is permitted to open) for all customers dining in/on outdoor tables, overnight guests and any private functions/meetings. Visitors can complete a hard copy or complete online at fordhallfarm.com/trackandtrace. Govt. NHS QR codes are available at all site entrances/exits.

Staff/volunteers/service users 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. Regular supervision of vulnerable groups required and suitable ratio's to be applied to enable this. Family members where appropriate, to be contacted to reinforce importance of social distancing whilst onsite.

Work, where possible, to be carried out outdoors or under cover but not in enclosed buildings unless absolutely necessary, especially in relation to volunteer, care farm and youth project activities. This also applies to lunch breaks.

Spread of virus via proximity

Use of areas where social distancing is not possible



Ensuring sufficient rest breaks for staff.

Social distancing also to be adhered to in staff break areas, encourage use of outside space as much as possible.

One way system in Arthurs Farm Kitchen with only those service users permitted to enter. Protective screens in place at service area. Rear staff exit now accessible for function users to avoid entering via shop or Arthur's Farm Kitchen.

Wearing of Gloves

Where Risk Assessment identifies wearing of gloves as a requirement of the job, an adequate supply of these will be provided. Staff will be instructed on how to remove gloves carefully to reduce contamination and how to dispose of them safely.

PPE

Public Health guidance on the use of PPE (personal protective equipment) to protect against COVID-19 relates to health care settings only. In all other settings individuals are asked to observe social distancing measures and practice good hand hygiene behaviours

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Face Masks are available for all staff unless they have their own, and are required to wear in line with Govt guidance in enclosed areas/shop/public areas.

Personal Items

Only essential personal items should be brought on to site.

Desks/tools/ will not be shared where possible and in all cases should be sanitised after use. All personal belongings on site to be stored on individual pegs/spaces. Personal possessions should not be shared.

Areas where members of the public can freely access to be clearly marked and separated from areas regularly used by staff/volunteers/service users. E.g. community garden, polytunnel and greenwood shelter, certain toilets, all to be accessible to appropriate service users/staff/volunteers only. Signage will be put up where necessary.

Where necessary, physical barriers may be erected to manage public access and social distancing.

Staff instructions: To remove gloves safely follow these steps:

- Use only surfaces of the gloves that are contaminated on other contaminated surfaces of the glove (such as the outside of the gloves). Never touch the inside of the glove with the outside, contaminated part of the glove.
- Used two gloved fingers to pull the outside cuff of the glove down and outwards of the second glove. Remember, never touch the inside of the glove.
- 3. Pull completely down until the glove is removed and the glove is now inside out.
- 4. Use the clean inside part of the glove to pull on the inside of the second glove.
- Dispose of the contaminated gloves into an infectious materials/hazardous materials bin.

By using these steps in how to safely remove gloves you will further reduce your risk of infections.

Staff to be reminded that wearing of gloves is not a substitute for good hand washing.



Emergencie	All staff/service users/volunteers to bring their own packed lunch to	Gloves, disposable apron and a facemask will be provided in the
s and First	site and water bottles.	first aid kit.
Aid		
	Administering First Aid	
	Most first aid is very simple and the steps to take in an emergency can	Line managers will offer support to staff who are affected by
	be described or explained to an injured or ill person so they can help	Coronavirus or has a family member affected.
	themselves.	
	If someone is so badly injured they cannot help themselves, those	
	trained in first aid should administer first aid where it is needed and	
	appropriate to do so. When checking if a person is breathing do not	
	listen or feel for breathing by placing your ear and cheek close to the	
	person's mouth. Look for a rise and fall of their chest or stomach and	
	normal breathing. If you are unsure, assume they are not breathing.	
	Continue with first aid key actions. Mouth to mouth is not	
	recommended, chest compressions alone are recommended by the	
Looking	British Red Cross.	
after our		Regular communication of mental health information and open
health.		door policy for those who need additional support
	Symptoms of Covid-19	Outreach support to vulnerable volunteers
	If anyone becomes unwell with a new continuous cough, loses sense	
	of taste or smell, or a high temperature in the workplace they will be	Informal Whatsapp Group for staff to share thought and feelings
	sent home and advised to follow the stay at home guidance. Advised	Furloughed/returning employees to have specific back to work
	to call 119 to arrange a test.	meeting which will touch on their health and wellbeing needs
	Managers will maintain regular contact with staff members during this	
	time.	
		Management and Senior Team to maintain a close eye on this
	If advised that a member of staff or public has developed Covid-19 and	guidance. Any changes as they occur to be communicated to all
	were recently on our premises (including where a member of staff has	staff.
	visited other work place premises such as domestic premises), the	
	management team of the workplace will contact the Public Health Authority to discuss the case (call 119), identify people who have been	
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in contact with them and will take advice on any actions or precautions that should be taken. If the Track and Trace programme has problems, the FCLI might request that staff or volunteers take a test before returning to site.

https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england

If any service users require transport to site: only one individual per taxi, must sit on opposite side to driver. If possible, windows to be left open.

Drivers

Procedures in place for Drivers to ensure adequate welfare facilities available during their work - Reference

https://www.hse.gov.uk/news/drivers-transport-delivery-coronavirus.htm

Persons should not share vehicles or cabs, where suitable distancing cannot be achieved.

Management will be sensitive to the needs of staff/volunteers/service users. Also in relation to their restrictions to attend site for work. Regular check-in's arranged to ensure staff feel supported.

Mental Health

Management will promote mental health & wellbeing awareness to staff during the Coronavirus outbreak and will offer whatever support they can to help

Reference -

https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/coronavirus-and-your-wellbeing/

www.hseni.gov.uk/stress

Projects working with vulnerable groups to risk assess individuals, including understanding if any family members are shielding, ability for individuals to social distance, consideration of other settings they attend.



Specific Processes to be applied per project	Arrival procedures to be put in place for all service users. Do they
It is recognised that there are a number of varied projects working at Fordhall Farm. As such, it may be appropriate to amend practices in different ways in each scenario. In these instances, the government workplace guidance should be followed https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19	have a temperature or any loss of sense of taste of smell. If so, send them home and advise call 119.