

Communications Bulletin 21/10/20

COVID-19 Updates

Advice on the use of PPE if attending training

If you are attending any internal face to face training, please be advised that there is now the requirement to wear face coverings. If you work at a home that has had confirmed cases and you are still in the 28 day period of the initial case being identified, then please be advised that you are not required to wear full PPE for the training only a face mask.

A Covid Secure Risk assessment has been completed for all the training by our external providers and internal team and further information can be found by clicking the link below and the attached risk assessment.



Pre-training
Covid-19 housekeepir

<https://www.careinmind.co.uk/staff-training>

Clinical sessions

The Covid Task group have agreed that clinical sessions (therapies/nurse visits to homes) can continue face to face in any Tier. This is because we deem this work as essential. The rules around PPE and social distancing should still apply.

Launching the Care in Mind COVID Support Portal

To support our staff to navigate the ever-changing guidance around COVID-19 we send these bulletins as and when there is a change. We are now pleased to say we also have a support portal that can be accessed from everyone desktop by clicking the icon below;



Covid Guidance.url

If you follow this link it will take you to guidance about Tier levels for each of the homes and also the Covid Policy. We are also in the process of developing this further and will be adding some frequently asked question based on the queries we receive, and these will be able to view next week.

We would advise everyone to view this page in the first instance if you any questions. If your answer is not on there then please email the Covid Task group.

The NHS COVID App

Many of us are now using the COVID App as advised by the Government and we would encourage staff to use this.

We have recently been advised by our partners that as long as staff are following the correct infection control processes and wearing the appropriate PPE, they would advise pausing contact tracing whilst working in a care home. This is because if a member of staff does have a positive test then the app will automatically inform anyone they have had close contact with (which could be work colleagues) to self isolate without knowing that they have been protected by PPE.

How and when should I pause contact tracing?

You can pause contact tracing within the app by moving the contact tracing toggle on the home screen.

You should pause the app when you:

- are working behind a fixed Perspex (or equivalent) screen and are fully protected from other people
- store your phone in a locker or communal area, for example while working or taking part in a leisure activity like swimming
- are a worker in social care and are wearing medical grade PPE such as a surgical mask

Remember to turn contact tracing back on once you leave this situation. When you pause contact tracing in the app it will give you the option to set a reminder to turn it back on after a certain period of time.

When contact tracing is paused, app users can still check into venues with an official NHS QR code poster.