

Risk Assessment - Coronavirus

Nature of the general hazard: *Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a new highly infectious disease which is causing a serious threat to public health around the world. The national and international situation is changing rapidly and so guidance about how to manage the risks associated with Coronavirus is also subject to change.*

Who might be harmed?: *Centre staff, visiting young people and adults, contractors and suppliers*

Hazard	Controls Measures
Insufficient knowledge of coronavirus, the symptoms, how it spreads, its dangers and what to do if an infection is suspected.	An information portfolio has been established with all the main current references (Government advice, National Guidance for school trips, NHS Wales advice, Department for Education advice, Association of British Insurers etc.) which is being regularly updated and is being used to inform our actions. The centre is signed up to the latest government email alerts.
Member of Plas Pencelli staff introducing the virus.	All staff have been briefed to avoid any possible source of the virus where possible (e.g. avoid visiting outbreak areas or making contact with infected individuals) and also to self isolate should they suspect they have become infected.
Visiting School/Group introduces the virus to the centre environment.	The incidence and spread of the virus nationally is being monitored on a daily basis. This is via the main news outlets, such as the BBC, from the government's own website and from local papers and websites. Attention is paid particularly to any outbreaks local to Plas Pencelli or outbreaks that may be associated with or alongside any schools that are due to visit the centre in the near future. Liaison takes place with all schools prior to attendance at Plas Pencelli to ensure no visitor displays corona virus symptoms or has been in proximity to a source of the virus in the last 14 days. On the day of departure all group leaders are briefed to let the centre know directly if any of their group shows symptoms of contracting the coronavirus in the next 14 days. If they so then the centre would be deep cleaned and advice sought on the appropriate steps.
Virus is spread within the Plas Pencelli environment.	Extra hygiene procedures have been instigated for all Plas Pencelli staff. Visiting staff and students are also encouraged, through inductions and signage, to adopt good standards of protection and hygiene. Posters are placed alongside all sinks to remind all of the importance of hand washing and at all these points there is hand sanitizer of over 60% alcohol standard, as recommended by the government, which all are encouraged to use.
Virus is able to be spread within groups during day activities.	Centre staff take sanitizer out each day on activities to ensure all hands can be sterilized before eating and after toileting, sneezing or coughing. Staff training in hand washing has been undertaken so visitors can be guided in good techniques.
Virus is spread to the group by a member of the public.	As normal, contact with any member of the public will be avoided, particularly on day activities when away from base. Deliveries at Plas Pencelli don't involve person to person contact.
Visiting schools uninformed of current situation at Plas Pencelli.	Information is posted on the centre website. All schools due to visit in the next few months are encouraged to make contact with the centre to receive advice. Any with particular concerns should contact the centre directly. Any schools which suspect an outbreak or are closing should contact the centre as soon as possible.
Visitors and centre staff unsure of how to deal with the risks that coronavirus may introduce.	A risk assessment has been prepared to inform the actions of staff and visitors according to each area of risk. This is displayed at the centre, distributed to schools prior to a visit and posted on the centre website.
That if the Plas Pencelli becomes infected it isn't sanitised to the appropriate standard and staff aren't adequately protected	The method and materials required to undertake deep cleaning have been documented. Materials have been sourced. Staff have been briefed on who and how they would undertake this deep cleaning should an infection occur at Plas Pencelli. Methods have been adopted from government advice.
That staff won't recognise the symptoms of	Staff have all been briefed to look out for any of the following: a fever, a high temperature, a persistent cough, breathing difficulties.

Coronavirus.	
That if someone became unwell with coronavirus symptoms there wouldn't be the correct response.	Should anyone become unwell at Plas Pencelli and display the typical symptoms of coronavirus, we will of course use the NHS coronavirus service, either online or via the helpline 111, to obtain the best advice of the next steps to take.
Someone becoming ill couldn't be quickly isolated at the centre.	There are separate buildings and separate rooms at Plas Pencelli where any person with infection worries or having the need to self isolate can be separated from others on a temporary basis until proper direction from the authorities can be received. There are over 30 separate bedrooms at Plas Pencelli.
That if there were an outbreak at Plas Pencelli that visitors would be exposed to others on the return journey.	The parents or guardians of those returning to self isolation would be encouraged to collect their dependents from the centre rather than returning by coach.