

Hands on learning that helps drive change

Health and Safety Policy attachment COVID-19 – updated September 2021.

GASP Motor Project will adopt Health and Safety arrangements under COVID-19 in line with Health & Safety legislation, and in consideration of government guidelines.

Good Health and Safety management is an integral part of the way that the GASP Motor Project operates and is considered across all activities delivered.

GASP Motor Project will:

1. Ensure good hygiene for everyone.
2. Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes.
3. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.
4. Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.

1. Ensure good hygiene for everyone

Hand hygiene

Frequent and thorough hand cleaning should now be regular practice. You should continue to ensure that pupils clean their hands regularly. This can be done with soap and water or hand sanitiser.

Respiratory hygiene

The 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach continues to be very important.

Posters for handwashing and bin it displayed on site.

Use of personal protective equipment (PPE)

Although staff will not require PPE beyond what they would normally need for their work, COVID appropriate PPE is available for those who wish to continue to wear it.

2. Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes, using standard products such as detergents

All GASP staff are responsible for the regular cleaning of areas and equipment (for example, twice per day), with a particular focus on frequently touched surfaces.

Cleaning and disinfection

Regular cleaning plays a vital role in limiting the transmission of COVID-19.

Reducing clutter and removing difficult to clean items can make cleaning easier. Increase the frequency of cleaning, using standard cleaning products such as detergents and bleach, paying attention to all surfaces but especially ones that are touched frequently, such as door handles, light switches, work surfaces, remote controls and electronic devices.

As a minimum, frequently touched surfaces should be wiped down twice a day, and one of these should be at the beginning or the end of the working day. Cleaning should be more frequent depending on the number of people using the space, whether they are entering and exiting the setting and access to handwashing and hand-sanitising facilities. Cleaning of frequently touched surfaces is particularly important in bathrooms and communal kitchens.

When cleaning surfaces, it is not necessary to wear personal protective equipment (PPE) or clothing over and above what would usually be used.

3. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated

When the workshop is in operation, it must be well ventilated, and a comfortable teaching environment should be maintained.

Opening external doors will improve natural ventilation.

You should balance the need for increased ventilation while maintaining a comfortable temperature.

4. Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19

When an individual develops COVID-19 symptoms or has a positive test

Pupils, staff and other adults should follow public health advice on when to self-isolate and what to do. No one should come into GASP if they have symptoms, have had a positive test result or other reasons requiring them to stay at home due to the risk of them passing on COVID-19 (for example, they are required to quarantine).

If anyone develops COVID-19 symptoms, however mild, they will be sent them home and they should follow public health advice.

If a student is awaiting collection, they should be left in the green room on their own if possible and safe to do so. A window should be opened for fresh air ventilation if possible. Appropriate PPE should also be used if close contact is necessary. Any rooms they use should be cleaned after they have left.

Asymptomatic testing

Testing remains important in reducing the risk of transmission of infection within school environments. That is why, whilst some measures are relaxed, others will remain, and if necessary, in response to the latest epidemiological data, we all need to be prepared to step measures up or down in future depending on local circumstances.

Staff should undertake twice weekly home tests whenever they are on site until the end of September, when this will also be reviewed.

Confirmatory PCR tests

Staff and pupils with a positive LFD test result should self-isolate in line with the stay at home guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection. They will also need to get a free PCR test to check if they have COVID-19.

Whilst awaiting the PCR result, the individual should continue to self-isolate.

If the PCR test is taken within 2 days of the positive lateral flow test, and is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD test and the pupil can return to school, as long as the individual doesn't have COVID-19 symptoms.

Those with a negative LFD test result can also continue to attend school or college.

Other considerations

All key contractors are made aware of the GASPs control measures and ways of working.

What PPE to wear when caring for a symptomatic individual

Depending on how close you need be to an individual with COVID-19 symptoms you may need the following PPE:

- fluid-resistant surgical face masks (also known as Type IIR)
- disposable gloves
- disposable plastic aprons
- eye protection (for example, a face visor or goggles)

How much PPE you need to wear when caring for someone with symptoms of COVID-19 depends on how much contact you have.

1. A face mask should be worn if you are in face-to-face contact.
2. If physical contact is necessary, then gloves, an apron and a face mask should be worn.
3. Wear eye protection if a risk assessment determines that there is a risk of fluids entering the eye, for example, from coughing, spitting or vomiting.

When PPE is used, it is essential that it is used properly. This includes scrupulous hand hygiene and following guidance on how to put PPE on and take it off safely in order to reduce self-contamination.

Face masks should:

- cover both the nose and mouth
- not be allowed to dangle around the neck
- not be touched once put on, except when carefully removed before disposal
- be changed when they become moist or damaged
- be worn once and then discarded - hands should be cleaned after disposal

Giving first aid

Children, young people or students who require first aid should continue to receive care in the same way. No additional PPE is needed because of COVID-19 for anyone who does not have COVID-19 symptoms.

Admitting children and young people onsite

In most cases, parents and carers will agree that a pupil or student with symptoms should not attend given the potential risk to others. If a parent or carer insists on their child attending your setting you can take the decision to refuse them if, in your reasonable judgement, it is necessary to protect others from possible infection with COVID-19. Your decision would need to be carefully considered in light of all the circumstances and current public health advice.