



Notice of Protocol for working  
with Active Connections CLG

30/03/2020

### **How can I protect myself from getting COVID-19?**

Wash your hands frequently with soap and water or use an

- alcohol-based hand rub if your hands are not visibly dirty.
- Practice good respiratory hygiene i.e. when coughing and sneezing, cover your mouth and nose with flexed elbow or tissue – discard tissue immediately into a closed bin and clean your hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water.
- Maintain social distancing i.e. leave at least 2 metre (6 feet) distance between yourself and other people, particularly those who are coughing, sneezing and have a fever.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth – if you touch your eyes, nose or mouth with your contaminated hands, you can transfer the virus from the surface to yourself.
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### **New Trails 1:1 work with clients working Protocol**

- Only clients living in symptoms free household can we supported
- Carers/Parents must confirm via phone that the young person is without symptoms before each and every session, this procedure is in place until further notice
  - Staff are to make a minimum of 3 phone (leave messages) call and 3 text messages (text or WhatsApp)
  - If no contact is received from the parent/carer, Active Connections staff will NOT ATTEND the home.

- If a young person presents as ill, Active Connections staff will leave them at home, let the carer know that we will not be engaging the young person as they present as ill.
  - If after 5 minutes into a session a young person begins to present as ill, take them home immediately
    - Once on session Active Connections staff will not allow participants to enter any building.
- Exposure to young people in close confined spaces is one of the major risks we face at present i.e. travelling in the car (this for some young people is necessary, travel time should be the absolute bare minimum) Local park, local woods, local river local beach
- Active Connections generally works 1:1 and in outdoor settings which massively reduce the chance of transmission, to this point NO work should be completed with a young person indoors.
  - Hand over will be conducted via a phone call, directly after the session with the parent/carer
    - Active Connections staff will not enter any home at present
- Use hand sanitizer regularly and or washing hand with soap and water is required from all participants, any participant who declines will not be engage with.
- We are requiring that all participants wear clean fresh clothing to be worn on session
- Active Connections staff will wipe down regular touch point on vehicles with Milton (bleach) (door handle, seat belts bulks, dash boards etc...) before and after each session
- Active Connections staff will clean all equipment after each session with appropriate cleaning products
- Use of masks - For people working with the general public in the community who are feeling well and do not have respiratory symptoms (e.g. cough, fever, shortness of breath), facemasks are not recommended because there is no evidence that using masks in this setting is of any benefit in people who are not sick. In line with the WHO guidance, the HSE is not recommending use of facemasks for people in the community

setting who are feeling well and do not have symptoms. The most important action that these people can take to protect themselves from COVID-19 is regular hand-washing and good respiratory hygiene, as outlined above.

- If you are feeling unwell please get in contact and do not attend sessions. Follow the HSE guidelines.

### **Further Info**

**What is the 2019 novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)?** A novel (new) virus that has not previously been seen in humans

was identified in Wuhan, China in December 2019. COVID-19 is from the same large family of viruses (coronaviruses) that caused the Severe Acute Respiratory

Syndrome (SARS) and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS).

**How is COVID-19 spread?** COVID-19 can spread from person to person, usually after close

contact with a person infected with the virus. The virus can be spread either:

- directly, through contact

with an infected person's body fluids (e.g. droplets from coughing or sneezing) or - indirectly, through contact with surfaces that an infected person has coughed or sneezed on and which are, therefore, contaminated with the virus. It is still not known how long COVID-19 virus survives on surfaces, although current information suggests the virus may survive a few hours. Simple household disinfectants can kill the virus.

### **Breakout service**

All overnight services will be suspended until further notice