

Unique Voice Safety and Protection Statement - Covid-19

The following policy statement covers all programmes and activities run by Unique Voice and was updated on 15th December 2021 following the Government's latest response to the new Omicron variant.

At Unique Voice we aim to provide our programmes each day throughout the advertised period; however, due to the Covid-19 restrictions, regulations and testing needs we may need to close some settings at short notice due to staff shortages; we will do our utmost to re-open if at all possible. Please regularly check for messages from your Unique Voice contact.

Unique Voice reserves the right to make changes to its policy, regardless of the official requirement, to reflect the perceived threat of Covid transmission and to protect all users of the programme and our staff. The safety and protection of health of all children, families and staff is our priority and the following document outlines to all parties what safety precautions have been implemented over the current programme period to help minimise risk. Unique Voice will only notify you of closures to the programme and you will not be notified directly regarding any confirmed cases within the programme. If requested, we will provide details to NHS Test & Trace who will notify you regarding any self-isolation need.

This document is to be read by all parents / carers of the children attending and all staff at Unique Voice before coming into the programme.

Drop off/ Pick Up: When children are allocated a place at the holiday programme, parents / carers will be given an allocated time slot to drop off their child to the UV leader. For the continued safety of our staff and all participating in the programme, we ask all parents / carers to observe the following at drop off & pick up time:

- that no parents / carers come inside the programme setting unless invited to by a staff member
- all parents / carers follow the guidance identified at the venue
- please keep a minimum of 2 metres between you and the next person/ family whilst queuing
- Current guidance is that **face coverings should be worn in communal areas of universities, colleges and schools by staff, visitors and pupils or students who were aged 11 and above at 31st August 2021.** The term 'communal areas' applies to the queue to drop off and collect your child and unless medically exempt you are required to wear a face covering whilst waiting in the queue.
- if it is possible please walk or cycle to the setting and avoid public transport (**the wearing of face coverings is also mandatory on public transport**).

UV staff will take the temperature of all young people attending the programme and anyone recording a temperature of 38degrees C or higher will be asked to return home and obtain a negative PCR test before re-joining the programme. Should your child display any of the COVID-19 symptoms listed below, you will be contacted and asked to take them home. You and your family should follow the government guidance regarding self-isolation

During the programme

1. Group Numbers: The number of young people attending each of our holiday programmes has been limited in line with our risk assessment and Covid-safe practices. The programme is closed to any other visitors apart from managers of Unique Voice.
2. Face coverings: Face coverings will not be required in normal classroom settings; however, children over 11 (at 31st August 2021) and Unique Voice staff should wear a face covering when moving around the premises and in any communal areas.
3. Testing: Testing remains important in reducing the risk of transmission of infection within settings. If your child has Covid-19 symptoms you should arrange a PCR test as soon as possible. There is no need for primary aged children to undergo asymptomatic testing; however, staff and visitors to the setting should take a lateral flow test twice weekly at home.

4. Outside Space: Where possible and weather permitting, we will be using outdoor space as much as possible to run the activities and this reduces the risk of spread of infection. Please ensure that your child has adequate clothing for the weather conditions.
5. Hand-washing: We will be asking the children that attend the programme to wash their hands regularly with provided running water and soap. Where access to running water and soap is limited, for example outside, an appropriate alcohol hand rub or sanitiser will be available, ensuring that all parts of the hands are covered.
6. Resources: The Unique Voice team will endeavour to ensure that surfaces touched by children and staff are cleaned regularly and throughout the day. We ask that no toys or items are brought in from home by the children.
7. Lunches: Unique Voice will supply pre-prepared lunches and snacks at the programmes as a result of funding from the Government's Holiday activities fund. Hand washing will take place both before and after lunch. Children and the staff will not be able to share food of any kind and lunches will be individually packed to reflect this.
8. First Aid: In consenting to Unique Voice carrying out first aid in the event of emergency, we need to advise that PPE equipment may be worn by Unique Voice staff to protect both the staff and children at close distance, particularly where a safe social distance cannot be maintained.

Prevention/Self-isolation

Unique Voice encourages all families to continue to partake in Lateral Flow Tests which can be made available to your household on the following website, <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>.

Covid Symptoms/Positive Test result

Anyone with Covid symptoms or a positive test result should stay at home and self-isolate immediately

Anyone with symptoms (see list below) should arrange a PCR test as soon as possible and not return to the programme unless a negative result is received.

If you do not have Covid-19 symptoms but have a positive PCR test result, you must stay at home and self-isolate. If you live in the same household as someone with Covid-19 you are at significantly higher risk of becoming infected yourself.

- If you are aged 18 years 6 months or over and you are not fully vaccinated*, and you live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, you are legally required to stay at home and self-isolate
- if you are fully vaccinated (14 days after receiving your 2nd dose) or aged under 18 years and 6 months, and you live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, you are not legally required to self-isolate. However, you are strongly advised to take an LFD test every day for 7 days, and to self-isolate if any of these test results is positive

You should continue to follow the guidance on the following website ([www.gov.uk covid-19 stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection](http://www.gov.uk/covid-19/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection))

Self-isolation should be for at least 10 full days from:

- The start of the symptoms, and any subsequent new symptoms within the self-isolation (unless a negative PCR test)
- The test date if they did not have symptoms but have had a positive lateral flow test (LFD) (if a PCR test is taken within 2 days of the positive lateral flow test, and is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD and the child can return to the programme)

Symptoms of Covid-19

- A new, continuous cough,
- high temperature, or
- a loss in their normal sense of taste



I have read all of the above and will abide by the Covid-19 safety regulations:

Name: _____

Signature: _____