

Overview and Context

In the undertaking of this risk assessment, we have followed the advice from the Department for Education's Step 4 guidance which can be found here: Protective measures for holiday or after-school clubs and other out-of-school settings for children during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak

The following overview is provided by the government, concerning out of school holiday clubs:

'As the country moves to Step 4 of the roadmap, the government will continue to manage the risk of serious illness from the spread of the virus. This marks a new phase in the government's response to the pandemic, moving away from stringent restrictions on everyone's day-to-day lives, towards advising people on how to protect themselves and others, alongside targeted interventions to reduce risk. As COVID-19 becomes a virus that we learn to live with, there is now an imperative to reduce the disruption to children and young people's education - particularly given that the direct clinical risks to children are extremely low, and every adult has been offered a first vaccine and the opportunity for two doses by mid-September. Our priority is for you to deliver face-to-face, high quality provision to all children. We have worked closely with the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and Public Health England (PHE) to revise this guidance.'

The intention remains to reduce the transmission of the virus as far as is practically possible, so whilst the government has removed all legal restrictions on numbers and bubbles, there are still some measures that we will choose to put into place to ensure that:

- a) Transmission of any cases of Covid-19 is kept to a minimum.
- b) Remaining self-isolation of close contact rules to not cause us to have significantly reduced staffing levels.

All staff working on Somerset Christian Camps agree to adhere to the following risk assessment and its implementation.

Competent person completing risk assessment: Jeremy Handscomb

Assisted by: Dominic Heath-Coleman

Assessed on: 11th July 2021



Last updated: 11th July 2021

	What are the hazards?	What measures are in place to mitigate the risk?	Is this considered satisfactory?
1	Contracting or spreading coronavirus by not washing hands or not washing them adequately	Hand washing at change over points between activities will be enforced. Additional hand sanitiser will be provided and carried by all tent leaders who will regularly ensure good hand and respiratory hygiene of their campers.	Yes
2	Contracting or spreading coronavirus in commonly used or high traffic areas	The vast majority of our activities will take place outside, where the risk of transmission of the virus is significantly reduced. The rule for this will be, 'If it can happen outside, it should.' Meal times will take place across four dining areas instead of one. There will be no queue, but instead leaders / work crew will serve meals to children at their tables. All announcements will take place before or after meal times outside.	Yes
3	Contracting or spreading coronavirus by not cleaning surfaces, equipment and workstations	Enhanced cleaning regimes of meal time spaces and other communal areas, including toilets, have been arranged.	Yes
4	Contracting or spreading the virus by not maintaining social distancing	Although social distancing is no longer a requirement in Step Four of the roadmap, it will be important for adults and young people (not children) to continue to give each other space. We are mindful that a positive case of coronavirus will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace to find close contacts. Test and Trace will likely then ask Somerset Christian Camps who we consider close contacts of a positive case. This will likely be the entire tent group - children and leaders, due to the time spent together at meal times and for the children, sleeping in a tent together. Although we are not officially 'bubbling', tent leaders will be reminded to encourage their children to not spend time in close contact with	Yes



		children from other tent groups when indoors.	
5	Poorly ventilated spaces leading to risks of coronavirus spreading	The indoor spaces that we use at Camp are: Big Church - very large auditorium (this has a high volume of air plus a mechanical ventilation system to draw air through the building. Dining rooms - windows and doors will be kept open when in use. Classrooms for craft - most craft activities can take place in open-sided marquees but where we use a classroom, the windows and doors will be kept open. Toilets in sports hall - doors propped open during use and footfall reduced due to staggered use at key times. Kitchens - windows open where possible. Staff spread out between kitchen spaces and air purged regularly. Tents - the residential camping nature of Somerset Christian Camps is an integral part of the experience. Children will sleep in tent groups of up ten children at night in consistent tent groups. Leaders will sleep in their own tents (max. 2 or 3 in each tent). Coaches - On Wednesday, the whole of Camp will travel by coach to Crealy. Leaders and Work Crew will be asked to wear face coverings whilst on the coaches and children will be seated in tent groups. Two 70-seater coaches will be used to allow for distancing between tent groups.	Yes
6	Contracting or spreading coronavirus through sporting activities.	All sporting activities will take place outside where the risk of transmission is greatly reduced. Hands will be sanitized before and after touching sporting equipment. Competitions between tent groups can still occur, as long as	Yes



		children are not in close contact for more than 15 minutes.	
7	Contracting or spreading coronavirus through 'performance' and live audience activities.	 Big Church, our high-energy evening celebration, is an integral part of Somerset Christian Camps. We will take the following measures to ensure that risk of transmission is significantly reduced: Children will sit in their tent groups, separated from other tent groups and spread throughout the auditorium. Additional rows of chairs in front of stage. Singing will still take place, but number of songs will be reduced. Where possible, shouting and cheering will be replaced with fun and engaging quiet / silent 'cheers' and responses. Adults in the band will be socially distanced. Games will be covid-secure. Length of indoor section of Big Church reduced to one hour. 	Yes
8	People who have the virus attend camp, bringing the risk of infection to others.	All children of secondary school age and adults will be asked to take a lateral flow test before coming to camp, followed by a confirmatory PCR test if positive. Staff will take a second lateral flow test half way through the week. At check-in, parents will be asked to confirm that their child has not had any covid symptoms in the preceding 48 hours. External visitors will not be allowed at Camp this year.	Yes
9	Somebody develops symptoms of coronavirus at Camp.	If a child or adult develops any of the main Covid-19 symptoms: a high temperature, a new, continuous cough or a loss of taste or smell, parents will be informed and asked to collect their child and for a PCR test to be arranged. Whilst waiting to be collected, the child will be kept in a designated room for	Yes



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		self-isolation, with ventilation where possible. Adults looking after the child will be provided with PPE. Situations where children with other symptoms, such as runny nose, headache, upset stomach, will be considered on an individual basis.	
10	Somebody at Camp tests positive for coronavirus.	If someone who is sent home for a PCR test subsequently tests positive for Covid-19, the NHS Test and Trace team will seek to identify close contacts of the positive case. Our intention in the running of Camp is that only the campers and leaders in this tent group will be identified as close contacts, having shared a tent overnight and sat around the same table at mealtimes. In this eventuality, the other campers and their tent group leaders will need to be collected from Camp immediately and taken home to self-isolate. This will be a legal requirement before 16th August (Week 1). After 16th August (Week 2), children will not legally need to self-isolate as close contacts of a positive case, however to ensure a break in potential chains of transmission at Camp, we will still require the children to be collected from Camp immediately. In the event that a member of staff tests positive on a lateral flow test mid-way through the week, the member of staff will be sent for a confirmatory PCR test. We will seek advice from the local Public Health England team regarding any self-isolation of close contacts before the PCR test results return.	Yes
11	Staffing levels fall below a safe threshold due to illness or self-isolation requirements of close contacts.	With potentially large numbers of Covid-19 cases in circulation by August 2021 and self-isolation of close contacts still a requirement until 16th August, it is possible that a significant number of staff will be unable to attend camp.	Yes

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		We will monitor the situation continuously and if staffing levels cannot be maintained safely, a decision about camp continuing will be made. Leaders will be asked to remain socially distanced from one another as much as possible, to prevent reduction in staffing due to self-isolation requirements of single-vaccinated people after 16th August and all before this date. The definitions of close contact are: • close face to face contact (under 1 metre) for any length of time – including talking to them or coughing on them • being within 1 to 2 metres of each other for more than 15 minutes – including travelling in a small vehicle Leaders can still socialise with one another provided that they do not come into 'close contact' with other adults on camp.	
12	Large numbers of parents and carers at either end of Camp spread coronavirus to each other.	Arrival times will be staggered by surname in 30 minute windows. All adults will be asked to wear face coverings as a courtesy to each other whilst on site. Parents will not be invited to the final Big Church of the week on Friday, but will instead come to collect their children afterwards. Social distancing and mask wearing will be encouraged at the end Camp.	Yes
13	Virus is picked up by someone whilst off-site on our day trip.	Crealy Theme Park has its own risk assessments and coronavirus measures in place: https://www.crealy.co.uk/coronavirus We will adhere to any restrictions in place with frequent hand sanitiser use.	Yes